

THE North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XLII., No. 1134.

SHANGHAI, APRIL 27, 1889.

PRICE, T'ls. 12 7/8 A.N.

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LATEST MAIL DATES.

England, &c.	Mar. 23	Hankow, &c.	April 23
San Francisco	" 20	Yokohama, &c.	" 17
Hongkong, &c.	April 24	Nagasaki, &c.	" 21
Tientsin, &c.	" 22	Foochow, &c.	" 19

Shanghai mail advices of 15th March were received in London on the 22nd inst.

BIRTHS.

At Shanghai, on the 19th instant, the wife of Mr. J. T. de Souza, of a daughter.

On the 22nd April, at Peking Road, Shanghai, the wife of R. W. Hurst, H.M.'s Consular Service, of a son.

At H.G.M.'s Consulate-General, Shanghai, on the 26th inst., Mrs. Focke, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

On the 9th April, 1889, at Christ Church, Yokohama, by the Rev. E. Champneys Irwine, M.A., CHARLES HERBERT, second son of the late Chas. A. Fearon, Esq., to EVELYN CONSTANCE, eldest daughter of John Rickett, Esq., of Yokohama.

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.

Per str. *Palamed*, for London—Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Clark, Mrs. Such, Mrs. Ford, Miss Lowndes, Capt. Inman, and Mr. E. B. Dowley.

Per str. *Kiangfoo*, for Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. Bernieres, Messrs. W. G. Gordon, Richard, G. Gardiner, Aldis, F. S. Deacon and Clark.

Per str. *Fushun*, for Hongkong—Mr. G. A. Foranith.

Per str. *Kowshing*, for Chefoo and Tientsin—Mr. and Mrs. Janet, child and maid, Messrs. Miller, Addis, Yu and Tseng.

Per str. *Kungoo*, for Chinkiang—Mrs. Innovent and Mr. I. S. Marsh.

Per str. *Paohun*, for Hankow—Mr. E. Fisher.

Per str. *Kiangyu*, for Wuhu—The Right Rev. Bishop Garnier and Rev. J. Lovial.

ARRIVED.

Per str. *Clode*, from London—Rev. and Mr. Shaw and child, Dr. and Mrs. J. A. Greig, Mrs. Craik, Misses Cross, Nicholson, Newington, Samuel, and G. Vincent, Messrs. C. W. Everard, W. S. Fraser and W. S. King. From Naples—Mr. F. Hague. From Port Said—Miss Wady. From Brindisi—Messrs. W. W. King, G. Clark, P. A. Crosthwaite, Macgregor and Murray. From Singapore—Mons and Madame Popoff, Messrs. Vito Sansone and Zkoloff. From Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. B. Layton, Mrs. Jones and 2 children, Miss Shewan and maid and Miss Fisher, Messrs. de la Garde, Lai Chee Sung and servants, A. A. Whelan, Addis, Gorlitz, Shewan, Clutsum, Commore, Stockchell, Cruickshank, S. Bethell, F. des Vaux, and S. Clark.

Per str. *Orestes*, from Liverpool, &c.—Mrs. Ivy and 3 children, Miss Sharp, Messrs. G. F. Rodwell and F. S. Pearce.

Per str. *Bayern*, from Antwerp—Mr. and Mrs. Stones, Messrs. Rodewald, D. Clark and M. Anderson. From Southampton—Mr. and Mrs. Copp and family, and Mr. A. Miller. From Genoa—Mr. and Mrs. Castro, Mrs. A. Schmidt, Capt. Kierstein, Messrs. A. and J. Ehlers, A. Achelis and D. Beretta. From Port Said—Messrs. Speshitto and Platoneff. From Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. Matheson, Messrs. Bonemann, Goomarbhoy, Harman, Murray and Skeels.

Per str. *Sincheny*, from Port Arthur—Messrs. M. M. Boulaire, Vaufray and Renard.

Per str. *Yokohama Maru*, from Yokohama, &c.—Miss M. S. Merrill, Rev. and Mrs. Roberts and 3 children, Rev. H. N. Woo, Messrs. W. McDonald, E. Davis, W. R. Lebedeff, F. Schaefer, M. S. Oreyrin, N. Okuda, Gittins, and On Yung.

Per str. *Taiwo*, from Hankow—Mr. McNamara.

Per str. *Fungshun*, from Tientsin an Chefoo—Mr. Dowley.

Per str. *Ichang*, from Ningpo—Messrs. Foo and Chang.

Per str. *Amoy*, from Hongkong—Mrs. Amatson, child and amah.

Per str. *W. Cores de Vries*, from Kiukiang—Mr. Miller.

Per str. *Kiangyung*, from Hankow—Baron Ginsburg, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Gulick.

Per str. *Chungking*, from Tientsin and Chefoo—Mr. Brown.

Per str. *Fungshun*, for Chefoo—Misses Marshall and Boyd. For Tientsin—Rev. and Mrs. Fraser, Rev. and Mrs. Robert, Miss M. S. Morrill, and Mrs. Farthing.

Per str. *Kiangyuen*, from Ningpo—Mr. and Mrs. Kleinwachter, and Dr. De Burgh Daly.

Per str. *Pekin*, from Hankow—Rev. Mr. G. Grane, Rev. Mr. P. A. De Meunon, and Mr. Oxley.

Per str. *Soochow*, from Amoy—Mr. Wilson.

Per str. *Fuhoo*, from Hankow—Messrs. Mobbsly and Davies.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer		Thermometer in shade		Hygrometer at 9 A.M.		WIND.		Rain-fall in inches previous 24 hours.
	10 A.M.	Attached Therm.	Max.	Min.	Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	Force.	Direction.	
Ap. 13	30.20	48.5	54.0	45.0	48.5	45.5	3	N.E.	..
14	30.07	51.5	52.0	47.0	51.5	51.0	4	E.	..
15	30.10	52.0	52.5	49.0	52.0	51.0	2	N.W.	..
16	30.12	52.5	55.0	49.0	52.5	51.0	1	N.	..
17	30.18	50.5	57.0	48.0	50.5	49.5	3	E.N.E.	..
18	30.10	53.0	53.0	50.0	53.0	52.0	1	N.E.	..
19	30.05	51.0	55.0	49.0	51.0	50.0	1	N.W.	..
20	30.17	55.0	63.0	50.0	55.0	51.0	1	S.W.	..
21	30.15	54.0	67.0	50.0	54.0	51.0	2	S.S.E.	..
22	30.06	58.0	60.0	50.0	58.0	51.0	1	S.E.	..
23	30.07	62.0	68.0	53.0	62.0	57.0	2	S.	..
24	30.05	61.0	73.0	57.0	61.0	59.0	2	S.S.W.	..
25	29.83	65.0	73.0	59.0	65.0	62.0	2	S.	..
26	29.83	62.5	76.0	59.0	62.5	60.0	3	E.N.E.	..
27	29.76	62.0	67.0	57.0	62.0	60.5	2	S.S.E.	..

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, SATURDAY, 27 APRIL, 1889.

THE Governor of Hongkong evidently does not allow himself to be guided by the wise advice that when you give your decision on any question, you should never give your reasons. There has been a movement of late in the Colony, strongly supported by the seamen's chaplain, in favour of legislation to prevent Sunday work on board shipping in the harbour. When it has been objected that the Chinese do not observe Sunday, and that it would be difficult to make them understand the reason for Sunday observance, and unfair to enforce it, it has been pointed out that the Chinese Customs do enforce it in the Chinese treaty ports, and it could therefore be easily enforced in Hongkong. At the meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council on the 18th instant, Sir William Des Vaux mentioned that he had received a number of petitions on the subject, and had given it very full consideration, but had come to the conclusion that the relief desired could not be granted except at the risk of very serious injury to the community. First, he had found that the number of Europeans employed in the harbour was only about one thousand, and a large proportion of those were only in Hongkong a few Sundays in the year. Wherever Sunday observance was enforced it was only done

by closing the Custom-house, and as there was no Custom-house in Hongkong, this mode of enforcing it was impossible. Then it would have also to be enforced on Chinese vessels, or they would have a great advantage over their European rivals. If the people connected with the harbour only worked six days in the week instead of seven, "there would be a real diminution in the amount of labour performed in the colony, a real diminution therefore in the result of labour, which is practically wealth," and the labourers would insist on being paid as much for their six days' labour as they now get for seven, which would diminish the wealth of the colony, "and that would be a decided evil, besides rendering the colony less attractive to the people of the neighbouring provinces who have done so much to promote its prosperity." Meanwhile, while only a thousand people would be benefited by the change, a hundred thousand would be affected by it. The only way to enforce Sunday observance would be by fine and imprisonment, and the result would be to fill the gaol with persons "who had done nothing but what their education and traditions had taught them to consider a praiseworthy action, that is, working." In prison they would find themselves the companions of thieves, and "would at once say, 'Why, what is the difference? Why should I not go and thief? I am in the same position in one case as the other.' " Crime would also be increased by the hundred thousand people being reduced to enforced idleness on Sunday. They would have nothing to do but gamble, and the direct result of gambling is crime. "If you can conceive," the Governor continued, "of a hundred thousand men forced to be idle on one day in seven, a day they have no respect for, I venture to think it is not easy to calculate the consequences. I believe a very large amount of evil would be done—an incalculably larger amount of evil than any good end that would be served would counterbalance." These arguments had convinced him that the enforcement of Sunday observance in the harbour would produce "so violent a change in the social condition of the colony as cannot be contemplated for a moment."

We have condensed this fairly from the *Daily Press*, and as it is given there in the report of the meeting of the Legislative Council in all seriousness, we must believe that it represents what Sir William Des Vœux, said, but a more hopeless piece of argument we never read. Surely, the fact that the change would only benefit a thousand people at the outside is a proof that it would not be such a very violent measure, and lessens the difficulty in enforcing it, and we cannot believe that the combined wisdom of Hongkong would be incapable of making the change because there is no Custom-house in Hongkong. Sunday observance is not enforced on junks in the treaty ports, as far as we know, but we have never heard foreign shipowners complain

that this gives the junks an unfair advantage; nor do we believe that there is any diminution in the wealth of the treaty ports because the Custom Houses are closed on Sunday, and the Governor's argument is an argument against observing Sunday at all. The general belief of the civilised world is that the total work achieved is not diminished by one day in seven being observed as a day of rest. We take leave to doubt whether the infliction of fines and imprisonment would be the only way of enforcing the desired observance of Sunday and, even if so, are there no gradations of punishment in Hongkong? Committing a nuisance in the street is not an offence in Chinese eyes, but we presume it is in Hongkong. How is it punished? And if by fine or imprisonment, does every coolie who is thus punished at once consider himself on a level with thieves, and say to himself, "Why should I not go and thief?" Sir William Des Vœux must have a very poor opinion of the intelligence of his Council to imagine that such an argument as that would impress them. What again does he imagine becomes of the population of the treaty ports who are prevented working on Sunday by the closing of the Custom-houses? Does he imagine that they all pass the day in gambling and its consequent crime? Would it not have been a little better for him—and not very difficult, after all—to discover how Sunday observance works at the treaty ports, instead of evolving such untenable arguments against it from his own consciousness? No doubt our contemporaries in the South have already answered the Governor's remarkable speech, for it is impossible that they can have accepted it in silence as the Legislative Council did; though that silence was possibly the silence of amazement that a person in such a position could make such a preposterous deliverance in public.

Summary of News.

The French mail of 22nd March arrived here this afternoon by the M.M. Co.'s str. *Natal*.

A mail leaves on Tuesday morning for Europe, by the P. & O. Co.'s str. *Clyde*.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

[BY EASTERN EXTENSION A. AND C. TEL. CO.]
(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

UNEASINESS IN FRANCE.

London, 18th April.
Numerous domiciliary visits have been made in Paris and the Provinces.

THE KING OF HOLLAND.

The King of the Netherlands is improving.

DEFEAT OF THE MAHDI.

El Senoussi has defeated the Mahdi.

A UNIONIST VICTORY.

A Unionist has been elected for Birmingham.

A SAFER ASYLUM.

London, 22nd April.
General Boulanger proceeds to England.

MR. PARNELL AND THE TIMES.

Mr. Parnell has withdrawn his Irish action against the *Times*.

THE OPENING OF OKLAHOMA.

Oklahoma, in Indian territory, has been opened and 50,000 settlers have rushed to occupy the district. Bloodshed is feared among the competing settlers.

LORD SALISBURY AT BRISTOL.

London, 24th April.
Lord Salisbury in a speech at Bristol defended the outlay on the Navy, and urged the folly of increasing the danger of invasion by the creation of a possibly hostile autonomous government in Ireland.

GENERAL BOULANGER.

Paris, 5th April.
The Chamber of Deputies adopted, by a majority of one hundred and fifty-two, the demand of the Government for authority to prosecute General Boulanger on the ground of attempting to overthrow the Republic.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

London, 6th April.
Sir Charles Warren has started for Singapore.

GENERAL BOULANGER.

Paris, 6th April.
The Senate meets on Monday as a High Court to try General Boulanger for treason. The Belgian Press demand the expulsion of the General from Belgium.

PARLIAMENT.

London, 6th April.
The Earl of Morley has been elected Chairman of Committees of the House of Lords.

GENERAL BOULANGER.

9th April.
General Boulanger has been expelled from Belgium, and is expected in England.

HOLLAND.

The Luxembourg Parliament has unanimously accepted Duke Adolph of Nassau as Regent of Luxembourg.

PARLIAMENT.

The Local Government Bill, Scotland, has been read a first time.

GENERAL BOULANGER.

London, 10th April.
The General has not been expelled, but has been warned that no political agitation will be suffered in Belgium.—*Straits Times*.

GENERAL BOULANGER.

Paris, 7th April.
The Government will arraign General Boulanger before the Senate sitting as a high court of justice.

DEATH OF A VENERABLE FRENCH SCIENTIST.

Paris, 9th April.
M. Chevreul is dead. The funeral is to be a public one.—*Havas Telegrams*.

[According to "Men of the Time," Michel Eugène Chevreul was born at Angiers, Aug. 31st, 1786. Having completed his studies at the Central School of that place, he went, at the age of 12, to Paris, where he was engaged in the chemical factory of the celebrated Vauquelin, and in 1813 he was appointed professor in the Lycée Charlemagne. M. Chevreul was the author of a number of scientific works, some of which have been translated into various European languages. In 1830 he succeeded M. Vauquelin in the chair of Chemistry at the Museum of Natural History, and subsequently became Fellow of the Royal Society of London and President of the Society of Agriculture. In 1864 he was appointed Director of the Museum of Natural History for five years, and in 1869 reappointed for a like period. He was made a Commander of the Legion of Honour in September 1844. In 1886 the centenary of the great savant's birth was celebrated in Paris, and attracted much attention in the scientific world.]

READINGS FOR THE WEEK.

		1889.		Rainfall in inches.
		Fahr. Thermometer.	Min. Max.	
April	20	49°.2	73°	.....
"	21	49°.2	63°.8	.....
"	22	50°	76°.5	.....
"	23	52°.5	80°	.....
"	24	57°.2	77°.5	.....
"	25	59°	83°.4	.....
"	26	58°.2	73°.8	.....
		1888.		Rainfall in inches.
		Min.	Max.	
April	20	48°	62°	0.45
"	21	46°	67°	.....
"	22	54°	70°	0.09
"	23	52°.5	64°	0.36
"	24	52°	63°.5	.....
"	25	57°	71°	.....
"	26	63°	64°	0.12

Mr. H. M. Hillier begs to acknowledge the receipt of the following subscriptions to the North-China Famine Relief Fund:—

	Tls.	\$
Amount of subscriptions already advertised.....	236,752.89	13,827.29
Subscriptions from San Francisco wired thro' Hongkong & Shanghai Bank \$552 par.....	552.00	...
Subscriptions from Singapore wired thro' Hongkong & Shanghai Bank by the Hon. W. Adamson, Treasurer Singapore Committee.....	8,000.00	...
Mansion House Fund wired thro' Hongkong & Shanghai Bank £4,000 ex. 4/13.....	19,443.04	...
Subscriptions from Hamburg, per Messrs. Siemssen & Co.....	600.00	...
Subscriptions from New York wired thro' Hongkong & Shanghai Bank	669.00	...
Subscriptions per Mayor of Melbourne £500, per H.B.M.'s Consul-General.....	2,376.24	...
	268,393.17	13,827.29

Further remittances are being made of Tls. 16,000 to Shantung, and Tls. 5,000 to Moukden.

Mr. Fitch desires to acknowledge the receipt of \$600 from San Francisco, which together with \$400 wrongly credited to New York a few days ago, comes from the Chinese Christians in San Francisco, and has been forwarded by telegraph to Messrs. Allen, Herring and Fitch.

Mr. Muirhead desires to acknowledge with thanks the following contributions to the famine relief fund:—

London Mission by telegram	£30
"American Churchmen"	Tls. 100.00
Rev. Dr. Eddins	" 20.00
A sympathiser	" 3.00
Mr. Hadrian Evans of Harrogate.....	\$3.30
Eastern offertory at St. John's Collegiate Chapel, Scholars and Teachers..	\$44.00
A Chinese friend	Tls. 200.00
Mr. Sen	\$100.00
Mr. Wang	10.00
Mrs. Wang	2.00
Mrs. Ma	1.00
R. N.	10.00
A Japanese friend	4.90

He also adds that he sent on Tuesday Tls. 500 to Wu-ting-foo in answer to the urgent appeal that has come to hand from that most needy place.

The Famine Committee has kindly enabled him to send Tls. 1,000 to Wuting-fu in reply to the urgent appeal from that region.

Mr. C. W. Everard of H.B.M. Consular service, who arrived here from England by the English mail on the 19th instant, will shortly proceed to Wuhu and relieve Mr. J. R. Coulthard as H.B.M. Acting Consul at that port, when the latter gentleman will take up his post as Vice-Consul at Macao.

H. E. Don Tiburcio Rodriguez y Muñoz, Spanish Minister at Peking, accompanied

by his family, left Shanghai for Marseilles in the *Anadyr* on Sunday.

H.E. the Treasurer of Formosa arrived here on Sunday in the *Feecheu*. He has been nominated Chinese Minister to England, and proceeds to Nanking to see the Viceroy prior to taking up the post.

The Hon. J. and Mrs. Bell-Irving left Hongkong for home in the *Saghalien* on the 17th instant.

At the end of last month Mr. James H. Hart had started for Rinchagong, where he was to meet the Chinese Amban, whom he would probably bring back with him to Sikkim.

American Dentistry and Dr. H. Mason Perkins have received a high and deserved compliment in the recent appointment of that gentleman to be Official and Private Dentist to H.E. Li Hung-chang.

Mr. W. W. Rockhill, formerly Secretary of the American Legation in Peking, is travelling in Tibet, and has the advantage of speaking the language and being familiar with the customs of the people. He wears the Tibetan dress, and has strong hopes of being able to reach Lhassa with a caravan with some of the members of which he is on very good terms.

Rear-Admiral John Lee Davis, U.S.N., who preceded Admiral Chandler in the command of the Asiatic squadron, died on the 12th of March.

It is reported from Kiukiang that the market has opened in Ningchow at Tls. 8 over last year, and in Keemun at about Tls. 5, the quality of the tea being 20 per cent. better and the crop a large one. An unusually large number of chaaszes are going up to Hankow and in spite of very bad news from London, the usual rush will no doubt take place.

We hear that some fears are entertained, in Seoul, that an outbreak or rather *coup* of some sort will take place in the Korean capital when the King leaves the city to worship at the ancestral tablets, which he will do about the first of next month. It was hoped that with the very palpable hint of disapproval which the Viceroy of Chihli lately administered to Yuan, there would be an era of rest from tiresome tales of plots and counterplots in the unfortunate capital of Chosen; but it is reported that such hopes were vain, and that China's representative is bent on making matters as uncomfortable as possible to the nation to which he is accredited, during the remainder of his short stay there. But we trust that the latest and somewhat vague fears will prove groundless.

The *Primus* bleaching powder case was appealed to the Russian Minister at Peking and the following is the decision of His Excellency, Mr. Coumany, H.I.R.M.'s Minister at Peking:—"To the appeal of Mr. R. E. Wainwright, Counsel for the Chinese subjects Ching Chong and Koo Su in their suit to recover Tls. 2,629, from Oscar Heine, master of the Finland ship *Primus*, I consider it my duty to state, that our Consuls in the East in their capacity of Justices of the Peace, on the strength of the 29th Article of the Civil Code, are allowed to take cognisance of suits which do not exceed in value the sum of 500 Roubles (about \$250); with this limitation Consular decisions may be appealed against in the next higher tribunal, to wit, a Court formed at the Legation.

"Whereas there was no decision by the Consular Court at Shanghai, and whereas there could be no decision given by the Consular Court, inasmuch as the sum claimed rendered the claim out of the jurisdiction of the Consular Court—the Imperial Legation in its capacity of a superior Court and on the strength of the 12th Article of the Civil Code cannot receive this case for adjudication.

"While keeping at the Legation the copies of the documents relating to the case, I have the honour to ask you to communicate the above mentioned to the Peti-

tioners, leaving them, should they desire to do so, to file their claims in the proper Courts at Abo (Finland, Russia) the place of the domicile of the master and owner of the ship."

We have received intimation of a series of missionary meetings to be held during the coming week,—somewhat similar in character to the May meetings at home:—as has been advertised. They are to be introduced by a sermon in the London Mission Chapel, Shantung Road, on Sunday the 28th inst. at 3 p.m. by the Rev. Wm. Muirhead—followed by a united communion—and afterwards by a public meeting in the Philharmonic Hall on the succeeding Wednesday evening at 8.30, General Kennedy presiding, when addresses will be delivered on Christian Missions in India, Africa, China, Japan and elsewhere. We sincerely congratulate our missionary friends on their first step towards united action: for we believe that out of it will grow further concerted work towards the promotion of the beneficent objects in which they are all engaged. There is an immense amount of moral energy and intellectual force among our missionaries, which, husbanded, organised, and well directed, would prove a mighty power for good in this land. In fact they constitute the only really "teaching body" in the empire. The new government schools and colleges are all very well, and we only wish they were multiplied one hundred-fold, but they reach only the merest fraction of the population,—whereas the missionaries are now stationed all through the twenty provinces over five hundred men strong, with some six hundred ladies, the bulk of whom also are engaged in educational operations. They have schools at almost every station: they are constantly teaching *visà voce* in the thoroughfares of the country: they print and circulate newspapers, magazines, books and tracts of all descriptions: they are ready and efficient in any good work: they are always on the side of peace, order, and enlightenment, loyal to western truth and progress, as well as steadfast in supporting the government of the land. Whatever therefore would promote their potency would conduce to the good of all in the nation, both natives and foreigners. And it has been on this ground we have all along consistently advocated the sinking of minor differences and the union of the missionary labour. We, therefore, welcome this new departure, and feel sure our friends will vindicate their Christianity and intelligence by still further wise and active co-operation.

We have been favoured with a photograph of the interior of Her Majesty's Theatre at the British Legation, Peking, as it was decorated on the occasion of the Bachelors' Ball recently given there. The building has quite recently been renovated and embellished at the expense, not of the British Government, but of gentlemen of the Legation Staff, and is now quite a charming little Theatre, sufficiently commodious to accommodate the whole of the foreign residents in Peking. We append a programme of the performance that took place on the 28th ultimo:—

"L'AFFAIRE DE LA RUE DE LOURCINE."

Comedie en un Acte, de M. Labiche.

Personnages:

Lenglumé, rentier.....	M. Vapereau.
Mistingue	M. Greville.
Potard, Cousin de Len-	
glumé	M. Vissière.
Justin, domestique	Comte de Cartagena.
Norine, femme de Len-	
glumé	Mme. Vapereau.
Régisseur.....	M. Billequin.

La scène se passe à Paris chez Lenglumé.

"A TET OF LEAVE."

A farce in one Act by Watts Phillips.

Characters:

Mr. Aspen Quiver (with nerves as shaky as his name).....	Mr. M. E. Wilkinson,
--	----------------------

Mr. Thomas Nuggetts
(of Sidney) Mr. H. Howard.
Bottles (alias "Shiny
Samuel" also from the
Colonies) Mr. W. P. Ker.
Joe (a page of prose) Mr. P. R. Walsham.
A Policeman Mr. J. S. Walsham.
Mrs. Aspen Quiver Mrs. Jordan.
Stage Manager Mr. Herbert F. Brady.
Scene—Aspen Lodge, Clapham.

We learn from a private letter from Philadelphia, received by Tuesday's mail, that the petitions sent from Shanghai in favour of General Kennedy's retention in office here have been duly forwarded to President Harrison, and now await the pleasure of the President and of Secretary Blaine. There has been some pressure brought to bear, we also learn, in favour of the appointment of Colonel Fred. Grant as U.S. Minister to China. Until the middle of March it looked as if the movement might succeed, but the journals then said that the President and the State Department had come to the conclusion that someone with greater experience ought to be sent.

The *American* says, in reference to the appointment of a U.S. Minister to Peking:—Our relations to China are of a kind which demand both mental alertness and decision in our representative. The latest news from that country indicates the possibility of an era of passionate hostility to foreigners of every kind, in resentment of the laws passed to exclude the Chinese from our country and the British colonies. Hundreds, perhaps even thousands of lives may depend on our having a man of first-rate qualities at Peking.

No. 3 Co., S.V.C., Monthly Challenge Cup was competed for on Friday and Saturday last. There were sixteen competitors; Sergt. Gould made the highest score, 54, but being handicapped 8 points, Priv. Turnbull took the cup with 50 points.

The S.V.C. Light Horse Monthly Challenge Cup was shot for on Tuesday morning. There were 9 competitors; Trooper Haskell made the highest score, namely 56 points, but being handicapped 8 points, Trooper Liddell, handicapped 3 points, won the Cup for the second time with a total of 52 points.

Monday last was the fête day of the Queen of Heaven, the goddess of sailors, and the C.M.S.N. Co.'s steamers and the junks were decorated with flags, while on shore the women organised gay processions and paraded the Settlements.

We learn from the *Chinese Times* of the 20th that Peking was threatened with a bread famine. There was only one half-barrel of flour in the foreign bakery. Thirty-six barrels were waiting to come from Tientsin, but the Taotai there had refused to grant them a pass owing to certain irregularities that had been committed under the pass system.

In its notes the *Chinese Times* says that the intended removal of the railway bridge across the Peiho "places the China Railway Company in a most unfavourable light, for it shows that the Board of Directors are mere puppets in the hands of others, that the traffic of the line may at any time be suppressed at the bidding of conspirators, and that the undertaking is like a house built on the ice which is never secure against changes of weather. Good will doubtless come out of these *contretemps* with the Railway, if the whole undertaking be not brought to a hopeless collapse by some arbitrary act of authority. It will be discovered that the traffic of a railway cannot be conducted in the way that has been attempted, and the government will soon be obliged to consider whether they will adopt some reasonable fixed rules for the construction and working of their railway system or abandon the undertaking as wholly unsuited to the genius of the country."

The bridge at Tientsin is to be removed: the circumstances are explained in the following extract from the *Chinese Times*:—

The history of the Tientsin railway bridge furnishes another striking example of the sacrifices which the Chinese will make at the shrine of their own "face." Certain Taotais who set up opposition to the bridge, headed by Hu, the territorial Taotai of Tientsin, were over-ruled by the Viceroy on the strength of the report of competent engineers and nautical experts, who pronounced the bridge safe, and no hindrance to water traffic. The Taotais lost face, that was all; but it was enough to inspire them with a resolution to destroy the bridge at all costs. So the Grain Taotai was drawn into the conspiracy,—an important functionary, who is independent of the local government, being in the service of the transport of Imperial grain. This bevy of officials importuned His Excellency to give them face by ordering the destruction of the bridge, and simply by continual coming they at length wearied him into acquiescence, and against his own judgment he gave the fatal order. The expense of this piece of foolish work has, of course, to be borne by other people than those whose face was so deeply concerned in the removal of the bridge, and we believe the Salt Commissioner and Kung Taotai of the West Arsenal between them will have to provide the means of removing the offending structure. But the transaction brings out into strong relief another weakness of the Chinese character: the incapacity to look beyond the narrow circle of immediate impressions. While doing so much to save the face of Hu Taotai, the higher authorities seem scarcely to reflect what an utterly ridiculous figure they will cut before the world. The autobiography of this bridge on its travels up and down the river would already make an amusing study in the hands of a sprightly writer. How it was first ordered for the upper reach, and, after work had begun, was removed thence, to seek for a site where best it could; how a second site was fixed where the bridge would have sprung from the dividing road between the English and French concessions; how this site was abandoned at the instance of the French Consul, who had properly no more to do with it than the senior tide-waiter, and how the bridge was finally squeezed into a place too narrow for it on the French concession; and how, after the piers have been sunk deep in the soil and the girders are in process of being placed, the order again comes to "move on." The fable of the old man and his ass is rehearsed in real life; the railway authorities (it is impossible to blame the directors for the latest whim, though they would have perhaps saved much of this trouble by greater firmness in the beginning), in trying to please everybody succeed in pleasing nobody, and in making an exhibition of themselves to the world, all to save the face of a few individuals who without rhyme or reason had set their heart against the bridge. Where the unfortunate structure will next turn up it were premature to conjecture, as the order to remove so solid a work is quicker issued than executed, and during the destructive process the authorities will have time enough to make and unmake many resolutions.

The Shansi correspondent of the *Chinese Times* says:—The great Chinese sage wrote: "The superior man does not even for the space of a single meal act contrary to virtue. In moments of haste he cleaves to it. In seasons of danger he cleaves to it." The Magistrate of Lu An-fu has recently shown that he has both the qualities of coolness and virtue. During the past year, missionaries of the C.I.M. have begun work in that city and moved there with their families. For some unknown reason the people became incensed against them, and determined to expel them from the city. Placards were posted up in various parts of the city, appealing to the passions of the people, and appointing a day when they

should arise *en masse*, tear down and burn the foreigners' houses and drive them from the city. When the Magistrate became aware of this movement, he at once issued a proclamation and had copies of it posted in various public places, in which he stated that the foreigners were good people, teachers of virtue, and their guests, and not only meant no harm in what they were doing, but were seeking to do the people good, and he strongly enjoined on the people to refrain from acts of violence and treat the foreigners kindly. The result was that the foreigners were undisturbed. Those who have seen the proclamation say it is one of the most remarkable issued in China with reference to missionaries. It certainly shows the good sense and character of the Magistrate, and doubtless saved the missionaries from serious injury. We may hope that the teachings of the great Chinese master regarding the duties of officials are not only committed to memory but put into practice also by many men in this great empire.

The *Shih-pao* tells a rather good story of a variation on the old ring-dropping trick. A young man finds a bundle in the road and annexes it. Just as he is rejoicing in his luck, another young man comes up and claims a share in the treasure trove. They wrangle and at last young man No. 1 offers young man No. 2 two hundred cash to be allowed peaceable possession. Young man No. 2 consents and disappears with the cash. Young man No. 1 opens the bundle when he gets to a quiet place and finds that it contains a dead baby; horrified, he throws it down and bolts, and discovers afterwards that the whole thing is a plant on the part of the young man No. 2, who recovers his baby and keeps the cash.

The second victim of the China boy who committed the murderous assault on the women in a house in Honan Road on the 12th instant, died at the Shantung Road Hospital on Monday soon after midday.

The U.S.S. *Monowacy* is to be sold by auction, with all her equipment, guns, rigging, stores, etc., at Yokohama on the 13th prox. The hull with fixtures, such as rigging, cable, anchor, etc., will be put up in one lot at the upset price of \$10,000 U.S. gold, and intending purchasers may see catalogues at our office.

A statement is made in an American paper that as soon as the Samoan difficulty occurred, the U.S. Naval authorities telegraphed to the late Admiral Chandler to send three of the men-of-war under his command to Samoa, but that as the Admiral only had two vessels capable of making the voyage, he was compelled to ignore his instructions.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co., offered at auction on Tuesday afternoon the following lots of land. We give the prices:—

1.—A lot of Land, registered in H.B.M.'s Consulate-General as Lot No. 762, and measuring, as per title deed No. 755, 64 *mow*, 7 *fun* and 2 *haou*. The boundaries are:—N., Lots 785, 657 and 224 U.S. Register, S., Lots 772, 773 and 774, E., the City Moat and Land Lot 657, and West, the Creek known as the Chow-king-pang. — From Tls. 970 to Tls. 500 per *mow*.

2.—A lot of Land, registered in H.B.M.'s Consulate-General as Lot No. 775, and measuring, as per title deed No. 778, 9 *mow*, 7 *fun*, 4 *le* and 6 *haou*. The boundaries are:—N., a road leading from Burial Ground to the Ningpo Joss House, S., by Land Lot 762 and the Property of the Ningpo Guild, E., the Property of the Ningpo Guild, and W., the Chow-king-pang. — Tls. 970 to Tls. 500 per *mow*.

3.—A lot of Land, registered in the United States Consulate-General under the title deed No. 224, and measuring, per title deed, 2 *mow*, 4 *fun* and 2 *haou*. The boundaries are:—N., Land Lot 657, S., Land Lot 762, E., the City Moat, and W., Land Lots 762 and 657. The land is intersected by the French Road to Siccawei. — Tls. 1,220.

4.—A lot of Land formerly known as Brand's Garden, registered in H.B.M. Consulate-General as Lot No. 770, and measuring, as per title deed No. 763, 14 *mow*, 9 *fun* and 5 *le*. The boundaries are:—N., centre of a creek which divides it from Lot 773, S., land formerly the property of J. S. Baron, Esq., E., the City Moat, and W., the property of Chinese renters.—Tls. 780 per *mow*.

5.—A lot of Land, registered in H.B.M. Consulate-General as Lot No. 1608, and measuring, as per title deed, 3 *mow*, 5 *fun*, 8 *le* and 9 *haon*. The land is intersected by the Cemetery Road, and is bounded as follows:—N., Chinese Cemetery, S., High Land, E., Yang's land and Chinese Cemetery, W., Yang's land.—Tls. 4,350.

6.—A lot of Land, registered in the United States Consulate-General as Lot No. 175, measuring, as per title deed, 2 *mow* 5 *fun*. It is bounded on the North by land now or lately the property of Mr. Wheelock, on the South by a Road, on the East by the creek called the Chow-king-pang, and on the West by a Road.—Tls. 1,250.

7.—The valuable property in the foreign Settlement in Ningpo, known as the Queen's Hotel, consisting of a Lot of Land, together with the buildings thereon, namely:—a two-storied House, containing 20 rooms, with outhouses and stabling. The land within the boundary walls measures nearly 4 *mow*, but the vendor has title deeds for only 1 *mow*, 4 *fun*, 2 *li* and 5 *haon*.—Not sold.

8.—A lot of Land situated in the foreign Settlement at Ningpo, registered in H.B.M. Consulate there as lot No. 49, and measuring, as per title deed, 15 *mow* and 5 *fun*. The boundaries are:—N.E. a public road, N.W. the old Chinha Canal, S.W. land now or formerly the property of P. Giquel, Esq., and S.E. land belonging to Chinese.—Not sold.

9.—A lot of Land on the North side of the Bubbling Well Road, at its junction with the new Cross Road, registered in H.B.M.'s Consulate-General as Lot No. 1,230, and measuring as per title deed No. 1,223, 2 *mow* and 5 *fun*.—Tls. 330.

10.—A lot of Land near the Bubbling Well Road, situated North of the property of W. H. Tottie, Esq., registered in H.I.G.M.'s Consulate-General as Land Lot No. 29, and measuring, as per title deed, 1 *mow*, 2 *fun*, 5 *li* and 9 *haon*.—Not sold.

11.—A lot of Land near the Bubbling Well Road, situated North of the property of W. H. Tottie, Esq., registered in H.I.G.M.'s Consulate-General as Lot No. 32, and measuring, as per title deed, 3 *mow*, 5 *fun*, 6 *li* and 5 *haon*.—Not sold.

12.—A lot of Land near the Farm, occupied as a garden, registered in H.I.G.M.'s Consulate-General as Lot No. 34, and measuring, as per title deed, 2 *mow*, 9 *li* and 8 *haon*.—Tls. 225 per *mow*.

13.—A lot of Land behind the Farm, registered in H.I.G.M.'s Consulate-General as Lot No. 39, measuring, as per title deed 1 *mow*, 7 *li*, and 8 *haon*.—Tls. 200.

14.—A lot of Land, near Sing Zah, on the South side of the old Bubbling Well Road, registered in H.I.G.M.'s Consulate-General, as Lot No. 26, and measuring, as per title deed, 3 *mow*, 2 *fun*, 7 *li*, and 6 *haon*.—Tls. 210 per *mow*.

15.—A lot of Land, behind the Farm, formerly occupied by the late G. Rogers, Esq., registered in H.B.M.'s Consulate-General, as Lot No. 1415, and measuring, as per title deed, 8 *fun*, 3 *li*, and 4 *haon*.—Tls. 190.

On the 8th of January we published an article on a Chinaman's "Desultory Notes on Western Customs." The London Times gave a long extract from this article in a recent issue, and this extract duly reappears in the Daily Press, credited to the Times.

It may not be generally known that there is an overland Postal Service between St. Petersburg and Tientsin. We have an

English newspaper with the St. Petersburg post mark on it dated 19th February, O.S. and it arrived here from Tientsin yesterday. Allowing three days for the paper to reach St. Petersburg, it took fifty-six days to reach its destination. The rate of postage is only half the usual rate.

We extract the following paragraphs from the *American* in reference to Monday's telegram as to Oklahoma:—"It is to be hoped that the Senate will not pass the bill to throw Oklahoma open to white settlers. This territory was secured to the four original tribes who were settled in the Indian Territory, to compensate them for the lands of which they were plundered by Georgia, Alabama, and other States, in defiance of the national authority. The only modification made in that grant was in the agreement that the western and still unoccupied parts of the territory might be given to tribes of friendly Indians. Even this the four tribes were under no obligation to concede, but they did so. They now resist with all their power the proposal to take one of the most valuable parts of their territory and hand it over to white purchasers without asking their leave. The justice of their claim is proved by the anxiety of the advocates of the bill to prevent their getting a hearing. . . . Twice in his term of office Mr. Cleveland has vindicated the rights of the Indians to Oklahoma by driving out the intruding squatters and ranchmen, who coveted this Naboth's Vineyard. In both cases he did so on the ground that it was the property of the tribes."

Amoy is becoming quite famous for tigers. A few days ago we mentioned that one had been shot in a cave close by there by Messrs. Leyburn and Harding, and now we have to announce that another has been bagged by the same gentlemen, who arrived with it at Kulangsu on Sunday last. On the following day the little island of Kulangsu was *en fête* with athletic sports, at which the tug of war between H.M.S. *Merlin* and H.M.S. *Rattler* was won by the former, while that between the Navy and Amoy was won by the latter. In the evening the *Merlin* gave a Christy Minstrel performance in the Theatre. Among the jokes was—"Why are tigers so abundant in Amoy?" "Because the For(r)ests are so well preserved."

A Canton correspondent of the *China Mail* gives the following estimate of the character of the Viceroy, Chang Chi-tung:—"Fertile of imagination, a learned scholar, an astute politician, a patriotic ruler, a humane lover of his compatriots, he has, with a firm hand, carried out a policy, sound as well as liberal, and adopted schemes and measures and improvements which from their importance and magnitude naturally demand more than a cursory notice"—and explains that his opposition to foreigners may be partly due to the misrepresentations of his subordinates. He is naturally of an imperious and impatient spirit, and loth to yield to pressure and remonstrance on the part of the foreign representatives at Canton, and this often makes him more obstinate, as in the case of the maintenance of the obstructions in the Canton river, than he would otherwise be disposed to be.

The *St. James's* after making the absurd suggestion that inspectors should be sent to China to see that the Lord Mayor's fund is properly distributed, adds the following:—"Curious stories might still be told of the last famine campaign in Bengal. On one occasion, it is said, a number of prosperous looking rustics were met, in charge of the police, clamorously invoking the justice of the great Lord Company—for the name of Honourable East India Company is still a power in the land. What was the cause of their distress? the sympathetic English traveller inquired. "Protector of the poor, we are being hauled off to be fed." "But what hardship," the Sahib asked, "is it to eat?" "Your lordship, three times already

have we been fed this day; by your lordship's favour we would fast till to-morrow." It would be interesting to hear Sir Richard Temple's opinion on the veracity of this anecdote.

Colonel Mosby has not yet got back his \$14,000 worth of fees from the State Department. Three days before the expiry of the time allowed, the State Department appealed to the Supreme Court, and it will probably be several years before the case will be reached.

The *Japan Mail* says that the steady growth of the cotton-spinning industry in Japan is commented on by the *Choya Shimbun*. Our contemporary says that, although there were already twenty-two factories at work in January of this year, two more were added in February, and the quantity of yarn produced rose from 1,512,259 lbs. to 1,522,347 lbs. Whether this latter figure represents the total production of yarn in the empire at present, we cannot certainly say. Apparently not, however, for the *Choya* speaks of four other factories—Shimada, Kashima, Dojima, and Nagasaki—the output of which, for some unexplained reason, is not included in the total. The great competitor of the home product is the Bombay yarn, with which, as we recently pointed out, the advantage in cheapness rests. It is asserted, however, that Japanese manufacturers are resolutely bent on driving their rival out of the field. In January they held a meeting and decided to reduce the price of their yarn. The *Choya* suggests that this resolution may possibly have caused a fall in the quantity of yarn imported, as only 1,089 bales came to Japan in February against 1,559 in January. It is plain, however, that such a rapid effect cannot have been produced. The Japanese manufacturers have a stiff task before them still if they mean to undersell Bombay yarns.

It was reported in the Japanese papers that some fishermen saw Messrs Breslau and Mansfield hanging on to their overturned boat, but were unable to help them owing to the heavy sea, but the *Mail* says that enquiries made on the spot failed entirely to elicit a corroboration of the report.

The *Huogo News* says that according to a telegram published in the *Kobe Yushin Nippo*, a railway accident, accompanied unfortunately with fatal results, occurred on the 11th on the section of the Tokaido railway between Abekawa and Mariko. The accident occurred through a lumber train and a ballast train meeting on the same line of rails. A few officials had been taken as passengers on the former, and there were some seventy labourers on the latter. Fortunately both trains were going slowly, and so out of about one hundred people on board, only fourteen were injured, but the two engines were shattered, and the cars piled in a heap. An old lady and two labourers were killed.

The incident of a captain of the British navy being fired on by German men-of-war's men at Samoa was satisfactorily explained in the House of Commons on the 18th ult. Lord George Hamilton stated that Captain Hand, the English officer in question, reported that a cutter belonging to the German ship *Eber* chased a boat containing unarmed natives, and fired upon them as they were escaping into the bush. Captain Hand, of the *Royalist*, was on the beach at the time, and hailed the German boat to call their attention to his being there, and to his being exposed to their firing. On his remonstrating with the captain of the *Eber*, that officer expressed his regret at the occurrence, which had taken place contrary to the instructions he had given as to firing. He repeated his expression of regret to Captain Hand on the following day on board the *Royalist*. He further sent the officer who had committed the breach of orders to Captain Hand to apologise, and to explain that he had acted contrary to his instructions.

Miscellaneous Articles.

THE DOWNFALL OF THE COPPER SYNDICATE.

THE downfall of the French Copper Syndicate is one of the heaviest blows that the recently invented system of Trusts has received. The term "recently-invented" must, of course, not be taken literally, for combinations to keep up the price of commodities are by no means new; what is new is the large scale on which they have been recently organised, which has brought them more prominently before the attention of the public than formerly. In the House of Commons the other day Mr. W. H. Smith, when asked if the government proposed to take any notice of the recently formed Salt Trust, replied in the negative, adding that it was generally found that these combinations resulted in a permanent lowering of prices in the end. Like most general statements this was only partially true, for when the trust can control production, it can keep up prices as long as its members hold together. The level to which it can raise prices is determined by the possibility of using a substitute for the commodity which the trust controls; so the housekeepers of France when copper utensils rose to what they considered an exorbitant price, began to substitute for them utensils of iron and tin, and Mr. Raikes, the Postmaster-General, mentioned in the House that his Office had ceased to use copper wire for its lines, owing to the great rise in price, and were relying on iron. There is hardly any thing that can be made the subject of a trust, any more than any man, that is absolutely indispensable to the world, and the failure of an attempt to make prices too high is another proof of the truth of the French proverb, *Qui trop embrasse mal étreint*.

The Société des Métaux, which organised the copper syndicate, was the largest copper-consuming company in France, and did a prosperous legitimate business before its managing director, M. Secretan, a person of a very speculative disposition, turned his mind to the establishment of the trust. Copper was unduly low at the time, having fallen to a price at which many of the mines were unable to produce with profit; and Mr. Secretan concluded that many of them would have to stop operations, and that a sharp rise in the metal would follow, especially as the low price was stimulating consumption, which was also being rapidly increased by the development of electrical inventions. As the great French banks occupy themselves much more with what is known as financing than the English banks do, what we call legitimate banking business being much less extended in France than in England, he was able to get from them the assistance he required for his scheme, and he laid his foundation, a very safe one, in the purchase of a large quantity of copper, and of the

shares of Copper Mining companies at very low rates. He then made contracts with these companies by which he undertook to buy their future production at a very much higher price, and in a very little while he doubled the market price of copper. So far the syndicate was a great success, but it already had in it the seeds of its own dissolution. The consumption of copper was immediately checked, and the production stimulated, by the rise in price, and the syndicate had not only to take from the mines a good deal more of the metal than it anticipated, but it had to accumulate stocks to the most alarming extent. From the time when it began to corner the market, the visible supply rose, according to the *Economist*, from 45,000 to 118,000 tons, while last month the syndicate was believed to hold no less than 130,000 tons. At only £50 a ton this would represent a lock-up of 6½ millions sterling, and when the syndicate was obliged to leave off buying in January last, it was evident that the end, long foretold, was at hand. An energetic endeavour was made to get English houses, who were supposed to be sufficiently strongly interested in the maintenance of the price of mining shares, to come to the assistance of the Société des Métaux by the formation of a Copper Bank in London; but the London houses appealed to insisted that they must be allowed, if they saw fit, to put the metal down to a price which would revive the moribund consumption, and that Mr. Secretan must modify his contracts with the mines; and as these stipulations were impracticable, the negotiations fell through. The French houses that had guaranteed M. Secretan's company then endeavoured to save themselves by the formation of a Société Auxiliaire, which was to shoulder their liabilities, but it was too late, and the break came. Fortunately the Rio Tinto Company was able to strengthen itself so much during the high prices, that London buyers were found to take up the great blocks of its shares that were sold in Paris, and it is generally reported that it can work at a profit even if copper were to remain at £40 a ton. The strength of London has really averted a great financial crash in Paris, and the public loss appears to be represented by the absorption of the capital and reserve fund of the *Comptoir d'Escompte*.

We are told that the affair will now be taken hold of by the London houses most interested in the metal. It is not the interest of either producers or consumers that the price should remain for any length of time at a level which would involve the closing of some of the mines, and thence renewed violent fluctuations in price. To get the market to a reasonable range and keep it there will not be easy in the face of the enormous stock that has to be financed for, but if the principal mining companies shew a readiness to assist, as it is believed they are doing, and the great

capitalists, reassured by this, subscribe the necessary funds, a new trust, on sounder principles, will probably be formed, which will put the price at a level acceptable to consumers, and the lesson that has been taught the Société des Métaux and its backers will not be thrown away.

"PUBLIC OPINION" IN CHINA.

IN the city of Washington is published a weekly journal called *Public Opinion*, and in London there is another with the same title. The former consists almost exclusively of extracts from leading newspapers published in every part of the United States, commenting upon any and all matters of public interest. It embraces a political department, home and foreign, literary, educational, financial, religious, and a miscellaneous department. The opinions expressed in contiguous columns are exceedingly diverse, and often flatly contradictory of one another. Many of these opinions are obviously coloured by party prejudice, many others by sectional bias, or by that of religion, race, or education. When the extracts are made from so wide a geographical area, are selected with rigid impartiality, and cover so extended a range of subjects, such a journal affords by far the best insight to be had into the real thoughts of the people at any time. It is the largest single window anywhere opened toward the whole world, and is a most welcome relief from the mixture of truth, half-truth, and pure fiction, of which most newspapers are compounded. The files of such a journal would be an invaluable prize for the overburdened 'future historian' who might desire to investigate the course of public thought during the times in which we live. His materials will have been collected ready to his hand, and he will need only to run them over, and strike the balance, showing which opinions were justified and proved correct, and which were demonstrated to be false.

It has often occurred to us, in turning over these entertaining pages, whether there is any material in China, from which (if it could be collected) such a journal could be made. The Chinese seem to be an exceptionally homogeneous people. They appear to think, to act, to feel, in blocks. What is Chinese 'public opinion'? Public opinion presupposes not only community of feeling, but community of knowledge. A very wide range of topics in regard to which the inhabitants of western lands entertain most definite views, does not come within the Chinese mental vision at all. We have never heard that the canny Scotch, although generally well settled in their convictions, have any fixed opinion as to the desirability of living on the planet Jupiter as compared with living on Neptune. They know next to nothing about either Jupiter or Neptune, and they care as little as they know. But to nearly all Chinese, foreign lands are as unknown and as uninteresting as

Jupiter or Neptune to us—nay, far more so. The natives of Kuangtung are highly excited and indignant when they hear of the outrages upon their fellow provincials in Wyoming, but ninety-nine per cent of the inhabitants of seventeen other Chinese provinces only know of Kuangtung as an 'outside' province, perhaps as inhabited by 'southern barbarians,' and all alike are as unacquainted with Wyoming or even with California, as with Uranus. The better part of the Chinese native press seems to be doing a valuable work, in sowing seeds of information in regard to matters both foreign and Chinese, and these seeds must eventually yield a crop. But as yet, when compared with the whole vast public of China, the numbers reached by these agencies must be the most infinitesimal fraction.

But it is not in regard to foreign nations only that the masses of the Chinese are ignorant. We are too ready to consider the maritime provinces, and the official circles of the Chinese, as China, and because great changes are seen in the vicinity of some treaty ports, and in the minds of some Chinese officials, we are apt to think that Chinese public sentiment is changing in important and significant ways. The masses of the Chinese are ignorant to a degree of which few foreigners have any adequate impression. There are thousands, probably hundreds of thousands, and possibly millions of Chinese in the province in which the Emperor lives, and in those adjacent to it, who do not yet know that he is married. It is nothing to them that an old lady has 'stepped down and out,' and a young man has stepped up. They have heard the name of Kuang Hsü for half a generation, and supposed he was the Emperor all this while. The poet Longfellow occupied a house in Cambridge, which was used by General Washington as his headquarters in 1775. Visitors often called upon the poet, to be shown the historic house. One such thanked his host for his kindness, and in leaving shook his hand warmly, and said; "Good bye General, I am glad to see you looking so well at your age!" To most Chinese one Emperor is the same as another, except that there is a new set of characters on some of the cash, but as hardly any one can read, this phenomenon does not obtrude itself upon the national vision in any impressive way. There is however one range of subjects upon which Chinese public opinion, however indifferent to foreign or even to domestic affairs, is prompt, unanimous, and emphatic. No people have a greater faculty for compact organisation, and for unity of action. In order to secure this action, they must be persuaded that their interests are invaded, which is seldom difficult. Thereupon ensues an interval of uproar, similar to that in the temple of Ephesus, when the trade in Dianas was imperilled. Then comes violence, of all grades from unimportant and isolated acts, up to the wholesale massacre at Tientsin. The

impartial distribution of these phenomena over more than a quarter of a century of time, and in almost every province where foreigners live (Shansi perhaps excepted) shows that the causes are general and permanent, not local and temporary. The bearing of these facts upon the introduction of revolutionary foreign innovations, especially railways, is obvious. The government of China may be an 'absolute despotism,' as the geographies affirm, but there is a great deal of democracy among the people. It is a well worn aphorism, that 'when the magistrates oppress, the people rebel,' and if the right of rebellion be not one of those 'reserved to the people' under the Chinese system, according to the late Mr. Meadows' exposition, it is at least a very practical fact. The Chinese government is afraid of the people, for in China, as elsewhere, vested interests are powerful. It is not strange if for the time they prove all-powerful. We must not forget the processes by which we in western lands have come to entertain an enlightened public opinion, nor must we expect the Chinese to reach at a bound a stage of development to which we have been conducted by countless causes operating through many centuries. Meantime we must do what we can to instruct their ignorance, and by no means omit to convince them, if we can, that western superiority to China is not merely physical, but also moral. Thus only shall we contribute to the formation in the central empire of a well-founded, matured, and enlightened public opinion.

GENERAL BOULANGER.

GENERAL BOULANGER proceeds to England. The telegrams recently published announcing that the General was to be expelled from Belgium, and then that he was not expelled, but only warned that he must not make it a base for agitation against France, made it probable that he would soon take refuge in the general asylum for hunted politicians. General Boulanger and his career are among the most attractive studies in European politics at the present moment. Of the man himself the most general opinion is that he is a charlatan, that he owes his popularity to his uniform and his black horse, that he is merely the accident around which the general discontent of the French people has crystallised, and that he has thus been invested with a factitious importance. On the other hand, it is allowed that the reforms and ameliorations which he introduced into the French army while he was War Minister were valuable and timely; and Mr. Stuart Cumberland, the thought-reader, an acute judge of character, accustomed to deal with men and gauge their intellectual powers, has written very highly of the General. It must be remembered, too, that it is not his cue to shew yet what he is and what he means to do when, if ever, he attains power. The low opinion that those who

knew him formed of Louis Napoleon's powers before the *coup d'état* did not prevent his becoming Emperor of the French and arbiter of Europe. General Boulanger's critics, and not merely those personally favourable to him, credit him with the possession of a considerable reserve of power.

At any rate General Boulanger seems to be the man of the hour. It so happens that during this century forms of government have lasted in France about eighteen years. Louis Philippe reigned from 1830 to 1848, Louis Napoleon from 1852 to 1870. These are little more than coincidences, but if they are insisted on enough, they tend to make people think they are rules, and thus the minds of many were prepared for a change in the form of government last or this year. With all the numerous changes of ministers in France during the eighteen years of the present Republic, there has never been any diminution in the expenditure on the army, and wealthy as France is, this expenditure has told on the people. Republican government is not cheap, nor with all its promises can it put a fowl in every peasant's pot. The French character is solid at the bottom and volatile on the surface, and it is the volatile surface that keeps itself in evidence. After eighteen or twenty years it wants a change, for even a radical Republic cannot make every man happy. The French newspapers and reviews are full of the weakness, the perfidy and the incapacity of every party, the parliament having reached a condition in which any government would seem to be impossible, were it not for the solid basis that is still there, though it does not shew itself until the last moment. M. Gauvain, in the *Political Science Quarterly* has described the constitution of the present Chamber of Deputies. Nineteen-twentieths of them, he says, "are absolutely mediocre personages, skilful perhaps in their professions, animated probably by the most honest intentions, but totally ignorant of the affairs of Government, of the real interests of the public, of internal administration, and of foreign politics." They come to Paris with preconceived notions, and are as obstinate as they are ignorant. They read only the papers of their own side and pick up their politics at their cafés. They have ideas of regeneration which they have formed in their villages, but which will not stand the light of the larger world of the capital for a moment. Just when they are beginning to see that their reforms are no improvement on what they have destroyed, they retire to private life, and then they work to pull down those who have taken their places, and recover power themselves. While they are still deputies their great object is to conciliate their electors, and they will therefore support the minister from whom they can obtain the most favours, places, crosses or pensions. "Under this system the credit of cabinets is quickly ruined and the Treasury emptied."

It is such a Chamber as M. Gauvain describes, and his description is repeated by hundreds, we may almost say, of other writers, that General Boulanger considers it his mission to abolish, and it is for this—for Chambers do not court abolition—that it has been proposed to try him for high treason; though no one denies the accuracy of the description. But the worst feature in the condition of France is that while everyone sees the breakdown, no one comes forward to mend the machine. All are ready to explain, as M. Gauvain does, what is the matter:—

"France longs only for repose, at home and abroad. She is frightfully weary of the harangues of her Deputies and of the agitations of her petty great men. She is searching for the arbiter of her divisions. She may be infatuated with the first adventurer who presents himself, without asking whether he will prove to be a Monk or a Cromwell. She will choose more worthily if a worthier offers himself. The electors of 1889 will be judges of their own cause. Their elected representatives, entrusted with the termination of a complicated crisis, will do well to remember their forerunners of 1789."

Writers like this, whether they intend it or not, are evidently preparing the way for a dictator. The way in which the country has stood the Panama Canal crash and the Copper crash, both of which, it was expected, would cause a crisis, shews that affairs are sounder than was generally believed, and that Boulanger will probably have to wait for the verdict of the people at the general election in the autumn. By that time, too, some other change may have come over the face of French politics, or his backers may have become tired of him; but at present he is the only Saviour of Society before France, and as he has risen superior to his former failures, he may rise equally above his present persecutions; particularly if, as Mr. Smalley writes after a visit to Paris, "there are thousands of the best bred and richest and most business-like and most active of the Parisians who are ready to accept him as a means of superseding the Republic."

THE EXTENSION OF THE USE OF ELECTRICITY.

THE nineteenth century has been made famous by the triumph of the Kettle. Not the domestic kettle whose singing, whether it preludes tea or something stronger, does so much to humanise society, but the greater kettle in which is produced the steam the application of which has so altered all the conditions of life. The reign of steam, however, much as it has accomplished, is a brief one, and it is nearing its end. Electricity is the power to which it is yielding up its sceptre. That power we have learned already to use in infinite ways, although we do not even yet know what it is, and its use is extending with gigantic strides, which we hardly appre-

ciate in China, so difficult is it at this distance to keep *au courant* with the progress that is being daily made at home. We have been worried indeed for years by the electric telegraph, and we have learned to enjoy the telephone and the electric light, but so far as we know such a thing as an electric motor has never yet reached Shanghai, and it is in this direction that the most rapid progress is being made, especially in the United States. At two manufacturing villages in the State of New York, which we may take as an example, Johnstown and Gloversville, the principal location of the glove manufacturing industry in the States, the machinery in the small manufactories which carry on the industries, is nearly all run by electricity. "The presses of the *Gloversville Leader* are operated by an electric motor; Jonah Hess, a carpenter, uses one in his shop in Johnstown for planing, sawing, making mouldings and brackets, and for the various uses of shop power in his trade; a paper-box factory has electric power for making boxes and for running an elevator; a knitting mill winds yarn by means of it. A Johnstown dentist, Dr. W. H. Colgrove, has a motor for the novel application of electric power to the boring out of cavities in the teeth. He says that he can do twice as much work in a given time as he did before with foot power. J. H. Smith, a Johnstown baker, at one time used a motor for kneading his bread; a butcher runs his sausage machine by electricity; ice cream freezers are turned by it; and a Gloversville barber, Augustus Peiper, gives you a shampoo by means of an infinitesimal portion of a water power $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles distant, conveyed to his shop and there converted into motion for him by electricity! Electric power is used in a small machine shop in Johnstown for operating machines and grindstones; grocers apply it to their coffee mills and peanut roasters; it was recently used for turning a circular saw for cutting up firewood; and it was used in a Gloversville restaurant, last summer, to operate fans. The application of this power, hereabouts, is extending and becoming more varied every week."

The power required to drive the motors is supplied by the Electric Light Company, which thus supplies power by day and light by night from the same dynamo machines. These dynamos are driven by a waterfall $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the nearer village, Johnstown; and the girls who work the glove sewing machines are charged 25 cents a week for the use of a motor. They work by the piece, and they find that they can now do twice the amount of work that they did when they had to drive their machines with the treadle, and are less fatigued at night. There was the usual conservatism and prejudice to be overcome when these motors were first introduced. "One manufacturer in Johnstown said at first that he 'would as soon have a streak of lightning' in his shop as one of these

motors. He has subsequently learned that a streak of lightning when put in harness is one of the most docile of servants, and yet the most efficient of all."

The most prominent advantage in the use of electrical power is that it can be conveyed along a wire no thicker than a pencil to a distance from the central station at a comparatively slight cost, and with little loss. In some cities at home hydraulic power and compressed air are so distributed from central stations, but the cost of the necessary pipes is enormous, and the loss very great. The compressed air system is in use at some mines at Iron Mountain, Michigan. The power is derived from waterfalls only three miles from the mines, and the loss in that three miles is no less than 75 per cent. That is, the horse-power collected at the falls amounts to 1,430.27, and the horse-power delivered to the mines is only 390.17. Another point, and a very important one, is the enormous saving in coal that it is proposed to make by the electrical transmission of power. Coal burnt in open fireplaces does not give out usefully more than 3 to 4 per cent. of its heat, and in most steam-boilers not more than 15 per cent., the rest being actually wasted. It is now proposed to consume the coal in the most economical furnaces possible at the mines, instead of carrying it to the consumers at an enormously enhanced cost, and then to send to the consumers through wires the electrical energy produced; and it is calculated that the use of electricity generated by steam power at the mines will cost the consumer not more than one-tenth of his present outlay. And it must be remembered that the electrical energy produced can be converted as readily into light and heat. We can imagine what London will be when coal is no longer burnt in its myriads of fires, but all the light and heat and power required are brought up from the coal mines in the north on a few slender wires. This is a dream that will undoubtedly be realised before long. Wherever, too, there is water power to be had, it will supersede coal, and every waterfall will have its turbines, driving dynamo machines. Niagara is to be put in harness before long, a Mr. Hamilton having invented a system by which the appearance of the falls will not be interfered with, his pipes being entirely masked behind the water. Before long, too, the rise and fall of the tides will be utilised to drive dynamo machines, and Shanghai, with no waterfalls and no coal measures, will yet have a natural source of power. All over the States electric motors are superseding horses and steam on the tramways, and one of the elevated railways in New York is using electric engines. We are only beginning in this nineteenth century to guess what electricity will do for the world; and already new applications of it crowd so fast upon us that we cannot even conceive how far the twentieth century will carry its use.

THE CHINA REVIEW.*

THIS issue opens with translation of an article on Lao-tse and his teachings, by Georg von der Gabelentz, Professor of Eastern Asiatic languages at the University of Leipzig. The original article was contributed to the *Allgemeine Real-Encyclopædie der Wissenschaft und Kunst*. In it, Dr. Gabelentz ranges himself among the admirers of the *Tao-tek-ching*, and among the believers in its genuineness. He says that it is "one of the most eminent masterpieces of Chinese literature and one of the profoundest philosophical works ever produced."

The Rev. Mr. Pearce follows with a notice of Dr. Williams and his work, in favour of which we are at once prejudiced, on observing that Mr. Pearce takes precisely the same view of Dr. Williams' sinological position as that recently expressed in these columns.

Mr. Hurst continues his *Budget of Historical Tales*. These are mostly worth recording. Brevity is their leading characteristic, and Mr. Hurst has turned many of them with considerable neatness, besides judiciously inserting Chinese characters where students would require a clue.

The next paper is a short account of a short trip from Kiukiang to the Lushan hills, of some interest to tourists.

Then follows a continuation of Mr. Jennings' translation of *Shi King* extracts. These extracts will scarcely tend to raise the estimate of Chinese poetry already existing in the mind of the foreign scoffer. Take the following specimen:—

When he could creep and crawl,
More wit had he than all;
When he grew on to feeding without aid,
He took to sowing beans,
And finely grew his beans,
And smiling rows of rice his toil repaid.
His hemp and wheat abundant grew,
His little gourds prolific too.

Dr. Eitel comes next with a translation of a narrative of the famous King Muh, the text of which, or the main portion of it, Dr. Eitel boldly ascribes to the tenth century B.C. It is certainly wanting in completeness, as may be inferred from the following typical and interesting extract:—

"On Yüeh-yin (9th day), the son of Heaven proceeded northwards and ascended the The son of Heaven then proceeded towards (the region of) the K'üen Jung (tribe). The K'üen Jung (tribe) The Hu (tribe). They gave the son of Heaven a feast in front of the river Tang, when the son of Heaven had some music performed Rewards were given to the officers of the seven detachments. There was some fighting going on."

This contribution of Dr. Eitel's fills sixteen pages, double columned, of the *Review*. It reminds us of a question asked by Dr. Eitel himself in reference to Dr. Hirth's elaborate work on the question of *Ta Ts'in*:—*Cui bono?*

Notes and Notices of new books complete the number.

* *The China Review*: Vol XVII, No. 4, January-February, 1889.

THE ENGLISH MAIL PAPERS.

THE temporary decline of Russophobia in England is shewn by the comparatively slight attention given in the papers to the success that Russia has been quietly achieving in the Balkans. The full importance of one of the longest steps in Russia's advance is hardly seen except by the *Spectator*, that step being the abdication of King Milan. "A thunderbolt has fallen in Eastern Europe," are the words with which the *Spectator* begins its note on the subject; and it shews how by it "Serbia is lost" to Austria, "Roumania is controlled by the Russophil party of the Boyars, and Prince Ferdinand's seat in Sofia has again become

insecure. Russian influence is, in truth, for the moment, in the ascendant throughout the great peninsula." In its article, the *Spectator* treats the subject of King Milan's abdication at much greater length, and shews how seriously it affects Austria:—

Deserted as she is by King Milan, Serbia must in almost any event become Russian, in sympathy, in alliances, and in military organisation, and that means most serious consequences for Austria. It not only destroys her whole influence in the Balkan, and endangers the quietude of Bosnia, which the Hapsburgs will not surrender without a great war, but it places the control of the Danube in hands which may at any moment become hostile. Austria can no more surrender the freedom of the Danube than a man can surrender the freedom of his veins. Moreover, once supreme in the Balkan States, the attractive force which the Russian Government, as the grand Slav Power, exercises over all Slavs, must be redoubled, and Francis Joseph would find himself Emperor only of the Germans and the Magyars,—that is, of only fourteen and a half millions out of his thirty-eight millions of nominal subjects. Even his military position would be impaired, for with Roumania and Serbia friendly, Russian troops could march into Bosnia without setting foot on hostile soil, with their communications unassailable, and their line of retreat, in the event of disaster, always open. We do not believe it possible for the Hapsburgs to endure such a position quietly, or that, cautious and long-suffering as they are, they can refrain, if Serbia becomes Russian, from deciding on one of two alternatives. They can occupy Belgrade and proclaim the Balkan Confederation, so commencing the great war with an act which will bring the whole peninsula to their side; or they can accept the Russian offer, and partition the Balkan, thus stretching their dominion southwards to Salonica and the Ægean Sea. All Magyars will advise the former course, which is also the nobler, and the one most in accordance with all recent promises of the House; but Prince Bismarck, who dreads Russia, will advise the latter, and so will all the Slav subjects of the Monarchy, who will be supported by the historic tradition of the Hapsburgs, which shows them always victorious in intrigue.

The *Saturday Review* has a much shorter article on the subject, but does not depreciate the danger to Austria:—

The blow which has been so much dreaded by observers of Eastern politics has fallen at last. The ever-veering mind of King Milan has at last made itself up to abdication, and the most ticklishly situated State in Europe has a sovereign of thirteen years old, an abdicated King and discredited general for Commander-in-chief, the Sovereign's divorced mother hovering about the country, a wildly Radical Constitution, a powerfully supported Pretender on the frontiers, and the most unscrupulous, if not the strongest, Power in the world, backed by a strong Serbian party, waiting to take advantage of what may happen. To such a situation there is no bright side, except perhaps to those paradoxers who hold that the worst never happens when it seems probable. But it must be admitted even by these that the danger is very great. It is absolutely impossible for Austria to permit either anarchy or the establishment of a hostile Power on the south bank of the Danube. It is absolutely impossible for her to take measures with the strong hand to prevent either of these things without at the same time giving a plausible excuse to Russia for interference, either in the affairs of Serbia or in the affairs of Bulgaria, or very likely in both. Once more, and more glaringly than ever, the insensate folly of permitting the establishment of these rickety little States in the Balkan Peninsula is forced upon eyes that apparently will not see. The fatal analogy of Greece (whose geographical isolation has been the sole and not always the sufficient security for her quiescence) was allowed to prevail; the sentimentalists and the historical pedants had their way; and this is what comes of it—not for the first, and assuredly not for the last, time.

Austria has already begun to take measures of defence, by placing a corps of observation along the Serbian frontier and preparing transport on the Danube; and the incident itself a few years ago would have

been proclaimed everywhere as the re-opening of the Eastern Question, that bugbear of statesmen. Russia may thank Mr. Parnell and friends for having so thoroughly occupied the attention of Parliament, that it has allowed her operations in the Balkans to go on with hardly a remark. Before we leave the *Spectator* we must draw attention to its very luminous article on General Harrison's inaugural address, in which it finds the impress of Mr. Blaine's mind upon every line. In its article on "The Triumph and the Victim," the *Saturday* again wonders why Mr. Parnell did not deny the forged letters before, and it makes a good point of General Harrison's reference to the necessity of enforcing the law in the Southern States; "As a citizen may not elect what laws he will obey, neither may the Executive elect which it will enforce." The *Saturday* "cannot refrain from reminding General Harrison that he belongs to a class of American politicians who are in the habit of ostentatiously exhibiting their sympathy with Irishmen who set, and who boast of setting, his wholesome counsels contemptuously at defiance."

"The Great Work for 1889 at last" is the heading of the *St. James's* article on the new Admiralty programme, a programme which turns out to be nothing like so large as it appeared at first. As the *St. James's* says:—

The moderation of the scheme will undoubtedly disappoint a good many people. Practically it comes to this: by the end of '94 we shall have ten more battle-ships and nine more first-class cruisers. This is a sensible addition to our force; but it will not make us equal to any probable combination which might be formed against us. We showed the other day that to be equal to France and Russia in 1892 we should require to put into line at least twelve or thirteen more ironclads than we possess at present; and France and Russia will not be sitting still between 1892 and 1894. However, it is the glorious privilege of a War Minister, under the party system of Government, to devote more attention to the affairs of Parliament and the constituencies than to his fleets and armies. Lord George Hamilton has to consider, not what he wants, but what he is likely to get. With a patriotic Opposition only too anxious to raise an outcry about bloated armaments and extravagant expenditure, with a Grand Old Statesman quite ready to employ all the resources of his eloquence and his "glamour" to press home the breeches-pocket argument on the more ignorant of his supporters, and with a general disposition on the part of the majority in Parliament to avoid a "row" in the country, the First Lord and the Chancellor of the Exchequer can hardly be blamed for doing no more than is absolutely necessary. Perhaps they deserve some credit for doing no less. Their proposals are, at any rate, not extensive enough to enable the Radicals to make much out of the opposition which they threaten.

One important point is still unexplained; there appears to be no provision for keeping the new ships in commission when they are built. This would add enormously to the naval estimates, and that is why perhaps nothing is said about it; but if they are to be built and then put away in the reserve, half their value is lost, for they become obsolete before they have ever been to sea. The *Pall Mall* has always made the increase of the navy one of its great aims, and it is therefore glad that the government has taken a step in this direction; but it is haunted by a not unfounded suspicion that "Ministers do not contemplate any serious effort to deal effectively with our shortcomings in guns, much the most serious blot in our imperial system of defence."

The *Pall Mall* is full of illustrations, some of them very good of their kind, and some of them, notably the big cartoon and the "diseased heart" sketches, execrably bad. The Paris correspondent of the *World* in his remarks on General Boulanger has a reference to a mysterious gentleman who fluttered Hongkong not long ago, and then disappeared suddenly and silently:—

The General's motto seems to be, *tout par les femmes*, a motto which carries men far; witness the case of M. de Mayréna, who left Paris a few years ago, after having spent all Jeanne Granier's laboriously acquired fortune, and who has reappeared at Tortoni's in the Royal capacity of "Marie L., King of the Sedangs." What a comedy this Parisian life is!

But the best things in the papers of the week are, of serious, the poem in *Punch*, "A Dog's Tale," and of comic, the following poem in the *Saturday*, motivated by Labouchere's personal explanation in the previous week:—

"PIGOTT AND I."

(By a humble Friend of Truth.)

Pigott and I!
Pigott and I!

That our names must be coupled I do not deny,
But the modest reserve of my nature is such
That I do not rejoice in the honour—not much.
I would gladly have rested obscure and unknown

Had gossip and rumour but let me alone;
But they will not; they force me to quit my retreat,

They compel me the tale of my arts to repeat,
That story of which you may say by-and-bye
That it's some of it "Pigott," but most of it "I."

Pigott and I!
Pigott and I!

Throughout to efface myself vainly I try.
I knew from the first that the letters were forged;

I knew they were dupes who their money disorged;

I guessed at the forger; his wiles I divined;
I traced every twist of his tortuous mind;
I followed the plot from the hour of its birth;
I smelt it, I tracked it, I ran it to earth,
And that's—if I seem egotistical—why
The story of "Pigott" is most of it "I."

Pigott and I!
Pigott and I!

I lured to my house that conspirator sly,
I saw him alone, and with Mr. P-r-n-l-l,
And a few minutes after, with L-w-s as well;
I brought him to book, and I made him confess,
I foiled all his dodges with signal address;
In short, the whole web of conspiracy vile
I unravelled in such—a-hem!—masterly style,
That 'twere downright injustice my tale to decry

As but some of it "Pigott" and more of it "I."

Pigott and I!
Pigott and I!

What! bribe the poor wretch to "confession"! Oh, fie!

I repel the foul charge, I reject it with scorn,
I'm as free from such guilt as the baby unborn;
But of course you may give a man money to do
Some act or another that binds him to you;
Why of course, if a witness has letters to sell,
And you make him your witness by buying them—well,

You would bid; and I thought, if I managed to buy,
The responsible man would be Pigott, not I.

Pigott and I!
Pigott and I!

I cannot conceive what induced him to fly.
I assure you that I didn't wish him to go,
Though he *had* but just made a clean breast of it. No!

Nor yet, though his flight of itself would convince,
And I knew not his tale had revised itself since.

(For that is the worst, 'tis not easily seen
When the breast of a witness like Pigott is clean.)

Still his flight was—suspicious I proudly defy—
It was all of it Pigott, and none of it I.

Pigott and I!
Pigott and I!

Who blames our colloquy with nobody by?
My innocent cottage is not as the homes
Of those midnight intriguers M-c-d-n-l-d and S-mes.

Suspicion attaches to them that he fled;
More still had he lived, most of all that he's dead.

Save myself and my friends, there is no one who's not

At the bottom of some diabolical plot;
Which, had he not rashly elected to die,
We would soon have unravelled, would Pigott and I.

Outports.

CHI-NAN FU.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. James has been pressing the different cases of the English Baptist Mission with the Taotai. The Magistrate with instructions from the Taotai issued a proclamation stating the Treaty on the points of renting property, and ordering fair dealing. Thereupon anonymous placards were put out quoting the Treaty, and especially the American Treaty, limiting foreigners to the ports, and in addition reviling the Taotai for his stupidity.

The English Mission finds everything quiet at Tai-an-fu and it seems as if the annoyances previously received had entirely ceased.

Some time since the German Mission made attempts to secure property in a leading market-town near Yen-chow-fu in the district of Chow-hsien, but opposition was roused and the plans checked. Not only in this section of country where Mencius laboured, but also in Ch'ü-fu, the home of the Confucian family, attempts were made to purchase property, and this, too, right under the shadow of the Confucian estate, and from a member of the Confucian family. The uncle of the present Duke who is largely responsible at present for the management of the estate, at once shook himself from his lethargy and instigated a riot. The local Magistrate hastened to send off under guard the native agents of the Roman Catholics and the matter was allowed to drop. Hence at present in the four districts and cities of Chi-ning Chow, Yen-chow Fu, Chow-hsien and Ch'ü-fu, riots have occurred against the Roman Catholics for purchasing property. The home of the Sages is being invaded, and it is uncertain whether the methods adopted are altogether expedient.

Mr. Reid has just returned from a visit to those same places and he reports the anti-foreign feeling as intense, and that he would probably have got into trouble were it not that he had been previously known by his previous visits. Coming to Ch'ü-fu, the uncle of the Duke at once enquired, "has that purchaser of property again come?" but when he learned who the person was, and what his object, he contented himself with non-action.

In thus questioning the action of the Roman Catholics in that vicinity in the matter of property, it may be wondered if the action of the American missionaries at Chi-nan-fu is any different. We think a difference is apparent. In the one case the German Bishop secured no sanction from the local officials to purchase property, and was refused interviews by the Taotai and Prefect at Yen-chow-fu; in the other, an American missionary had for two years been quietly pressing the matter of a hospital upon the attention of the officials, and had gained the hearty approval and promise of aid from the Governor, Judge, Treasurer and local officials. In Chi-nan-fu for the American missionaries to ignore the favourable situation and not purchase, would have seemed unwise. In Yen-chow-fu for the Roman missionaries to ignore the unfavourable situation and purchase property may seem wise to them, but has already been questioned by the Peking correspondent. Be it remembered that the home of a prominent member of the Tsung-li Yamên, Suen Yü-wên, is in Chi-ning-chow, and that his daughter is the wife of the Duke Confucius.

Any way at present there are plenty of foreign cases on hand from all sides and parties, and they need some sort of adjustment, and above all the guarantee of personal protection and right to travel are clearly and imperatively needed.

It is also reported that quite a portion of the people in Chow-hsien and Ch'ü-fu are

without food, but as their wants may be supplied by other natives, Mr. Reid has not thought it best to ask for aid. In fact he himself in that region during the first half of Lent lived on sixty odd cash or three-pence per day. He has been asked to assist the Rev. Mr. Laughlin in relief work, and intends to leave soon.

The Rev. Mr. Chalfant returned from a hurried distribution of cash notes north of the city. Mr. Drake is still absent. Others from other places are also employed in the same work. Large numbers of people are fleeing to Shansi, certainly a very wise step. However by request of the Governor of that province, the Governor here has issued orders forbidding people to move there in the future.

The famine in Shantung is localised. From the reports of those at work in the needy region, the destitution and famine are appalling.

The new magazine the *Wan Kuo Kung Pao* has arrived here. Mr. James sent copies to the officials from the Governor down, and received return cards with thanks.

1st April.

HANGCHOW.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

This city has been full of rumours regarding an uprising in Yü-hang, an active town about twenty miles distant at the foot of the hill country in the west. Several companies of soldiers have been sent to the scene of disorder and the incipient rebellion has been quelled.

It seems that about five years ago a woman was in severe labour and priests were called in to perform incantations, &c. They told the family that the child would become a remarkable person. Recently, the same priest persuaded the family that their son was born to be an Emperor. Quite a number of priests and the followers of one of the secret societies made preparations to claim the dragon throne for the obscure child. They collected arms and banners, especially banners, which were all made of a diminutive size. They also seized a rich man and attempted to force money from him. He secured a release on the plea of raising the money and went and informed the Magistrate. The insurgents were arrested and tried. The older brother of the pretender and seven priests were beheaded, and the insurrection seems to be at an end.

The strike of the keepers of tea-shops ended very quietly a few days after it began by the officials agreeing to accept the sum of fifteen hundred dollars once for all, and release tea from taxation. The Chief of Police who caused the trouble has been degraded. The tea-shops propose to present a red umbrella both to the Governor and to the Criminal Judge, to express their gratitude for their services in their behalf.

16th April.

NEUCHWANG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

I send you a couple of packets containing samples of the food which seems to have kept some of the poor people alive, but they don't thrive very well on it, and I hear that although it prolongs the lives of the young and strong, the older people die of indigestion after meals. In some of the villages there is not even anything so good as these samples. The trees are all barked, and in the marshy fields where the wild fowl are to be seen in thousands, what is known as Goose grass or Yâ-Fôe Mên **Guên 莽火苗根** has been gathered by the inhabitants, as almost the only food they had to live on. Foreigners in twos or even alone have been able to control the famished and maddened supplicants for relief, who are astonished at the boldness of those

who appear with means to dole out food and cash. In fact, natives dare not undertake what has been done so liberally, and with such courage by our missionaries and other gentlemen, whose unselfishness deserves recognition. All I can do is to mention their names—Messrs. Carson, Fulton, Turley, Wylie, Westwater, Webster, Macintyre, Farmer and Bush, besides the Fathers of the Missions Etrangères and the Sœurs de la Ste. Providence. The work was not trifling and only those who have travelled in Manchuria during the winter can understand the discomfort. As to the visiting necessary to find out where relief was required, it is impossible to describe the risk incurred in hovels where small-pox and fevers of all kinds were rampant; sickness and even death (last year, Rev. A. Westwater) have been the result of these generous efforts on the part of our relieving force, but their hearts quailed not, although I have known instances of loss of appetite, &c., in consequence of the misery and effluvia, against which some did not even put the barrier of a pipe of "Happy Thought." Alas! there is a great deal of poverty still. In fact it does not lessen, and as I said before it is difficult to cope with, because unless the condition of the province be completely altered, or emigration be assisted, things must go from bad to worse. The Government is not doing anything at all towards improving matters for the future! Roads might be repaired, bridges made, or the current of the river diverted so that the town of Yingtzu might be saved. Works of that kind would be very useful and would give employment to thousands who are eager to earn a few cash. Corruption seems to be the order of the day—and it is reported that the taxes for the mending of roads for instance, and they really require some macadamising, are spent in sing-songs or theatricals!

Everyone does not coincide with the idea of helping the starving wretches more than has already been done—on the ground that it is demoralising them. Meanwhile they starve, morals notwithstanding, and spiritual food will not keep them alive. It is absurd I think to teach a starving animal, except on the principle to teach a dog tricks. Feed first, then talk of spiritual comfort—the latter is not possible with an empty stomach, for we know nature abhors a vacuum.

Vessels in port are:—Steamers *Taku*, and *Hoihow*, Revenue Cruiser *Ling-feng*, sailing ships *Perle* and *Sea Swallow*.

16th April.

SOOCHOW.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

At every provincial capital there is a palace, not for the residence of the Emperor who may go on a tour of inspection once in three hundred or more years, but for the reception of Imperial Messages. There was much excitement in the city as there were two messages; one from the Empress who announced the marriage of the Emperor and that the regency was now at an end, and one from the young ruler of three hundred and ninety millions announcing his assumption of the reins of government, advancing the rank of the mandarins now in office and proclaiming a year of grace, the pardon of criminals of the lighter degree, and a general amnesty, a Chinese "Year of Jubilee."

A small pavilion of reed matting was erected on the stone dais in front of the palace where on successive days these Imperial Messages were read, and a rude canopy spread on the right and left in front under which the officials stood, the civil to the east (東) and the military to the west. Governor Wong, an old gentleman with gray moustache and rather short in stature arrived with his "staff," also the

Provincial Treasurer, Criminal Judge and Imperial Jailor, the Prefect, County Governors, Chief of Police and a large number of literary officials were present. The message, a "red" one, a sign of joy, was brought in a small bamboo pavilion and was carried on the streets over the bridges of Great Peace and Good Luck. The sign boards and other regalia are only used on state occasions. It was a magnificent spectacle, as this was borne to its position and the retinue of mandarins (a splendid-looking body of men) filed on either side with red caps on their heads richly embroidered capes on their shoulders and very gorgeous "Imperial skirts," which are only worn at these receptions.

At the call of the Master of Ceremonies, the officials knelt and at a second call they made prostrations. The message was then read. After this the Governor knelt and received the scroll which was four feet long and wrapped in yellow silk. The Provincial Treasurer then knelt and received it from the Governor, held it before his eyes, placed it on its travelling pavilion and bore it away to the archives. The Mandarins drank tea for a half-hour and then left, the Governor first. They make themselves very sociable with a foreigner, especially if he is accompanied by foreign children which act as a magnet to the magnates. But what of the Palace? This is the first time the writer has been within. Its doors were shut just before the officials came. "A cage of unclean birds" which had not been swept or "howed out" for ———.

18th April.

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTE.

GINSENG FOR THE PALACE.

April 4th.—A further collection of ginseng for the use of the Emperor is reported from Kirin. The amount consists of eight large and twelve medium-sized plants, weighing eight ounces and eight-tenths, and all of superior quality. The cost of procuring it came to Tls. 1,505.54, which will be taken as usual from the ginseng duty receipts. The season for gathering ginseng is now past, but orders have been given to resume the search for it as soon as the summer has come.

PUBLIC CHARITY IN CHIHLI.

The Viceroy Li Hung-chang states that, in consequence of the floods which occurred last autumn, it has been necessary to distribute charity in parts of Chihli. During the past winter and the present spring. Besides the moneys raised by the Charitable Relief Board, a sum of Tls. 25,000 has been drawn from the provincial revenue, and has been expended partially in direct gifts and partially in the institution of relief works.

RESERVES OF GRAIN IN KUEICHOW.

A memorial from the Governor of Kueichow states that there is but little cultivable land in that mountainous province; consequently there are never large stocks of grain reserved, and there is much suffering in years of scarcity. The memorialist's predecessor instituted a system of collecting contributions of grain, and the subscriptions mounted up to 119,820 piculs. But, as the memorialist found when making a tour through the province last year, a portion of this had merely been promised and had never been actually delivered. Even were it all safely collected, the quantity did not seem to the memorialist sufficient for the purpose. He therefore commenced a new collection, heading the list himself with a gift of 2,000 piculs, and his example being followed by many officials, who have generously devoted a portion of their pay to the good work. Thus encouraged, many gentlemen came forward and subscribed with much willingness. Those who had promised before and

had not given, were invited either to carry out their old undertaking or to put their names on the new list; but in no case were they asked to do both. The officials concerned now report the receipt of 211,090 piculs, making with the former amount 330,929 piculs all of which has been safely stored away. The memorialist considers the quantity a large one, and is highly impressed by the public spirit displayed. The corn will be stored in the official granaries and will only be issued in times of real distress and after the sanction of the higher authorities has been obtained.

DEFICIENT CUSTOMS RECEIPTS AT PEKING.

The officers in charge of the Right Wing and Left Wing Custom-houses at Peking present their annual return of moneys received. As usual they state that they have not been able to collect the full amount which they ought by law. The deficiency they ascribe to diseases among the flocks and herds in Mongolia, and to distress caused by floods and general poverty among the people of Chihli, which prevent them from buying readily even the small amount of cattle offered for sale. Decree issued previously.

APPOINTMENTS.

April 6th.—Ch'i Shih-ch'ang is to act as President of the Board of Ceremonies while Li Hung-tsao is engaged with the Metropolitan examinations and Hsi-t'ung is to act as President of the Board of Works while P'an Tsu-yin is similarly employed.

RESULT OF TEST EXAMINATION AT PEKING OF PROVINCIAL GRADUATES.

Before proceeding for their final degree the provincial graduates are subjected on their arrival in Peking to a test-examination at which they are divided into several classes according to the degree of proficiency with which they acquit themselves. Such an examination has just been held of all the graduates who obtained their degrees last autumn and the result, which is now published by the Board of Ceremonies, awards first honours to 100, second honours to 300 and third class honours to 60 candidates. Of the remainder, eighteen, who made slips in their essays or produced verses with faulty rhythm, are debarred from competing for their final degree for three years, thirteen whose papers were of very inferior merit are not allowed to proceed for the final degree for six years and one whose composition was outrageously bad is deprived of his provincial degree.

RETENTION OF TAOTAI IN HONAN.

Some time ago Shên Ping-ch'eng, the Governor of Kuangsi, asked that an Expectant Taotai in Honan named Chu Shou-yung should be transferred for services under his orders. Chu Shou-yung was at the time doing good service in connection with the Yellow River works and the Honan authorities applied for permission to retain his services until the breach was repaired. In the meantime, Shên Ping-ch'eng himself was transferred to the Governorship of Anhui and naturally the Taotai was no longer anxious to proceed to Kuangsi. An application having been submitted to the Throne on his behalf, his retention in Honan has been sanctioned.

DISTRESS IN SHANTUNG. GOVERNOR REQUESTS THAT THE PROHIBITION AGAINST THE EXPORT OF GRAIN FROM MANCHURIA SHOULD BE WITHDRAWN.

April 7th.—The Governor of Shantung presents a memorial in which he requests that the prohibition against the export of grain from Manchuria may be withdrawn in order that supplies may be procured for the relief of the distress which prevails in Shantung owing to the failure of last year's harvest. Shantung, the memorialist remarks, is a hilly province with a comparatively small area of arable land and a very dense population. Cotton is grown to a considerable extent and even in good years the production of cereals is insufficient for local

consumption. Some forty districts and departments in the north and east of the province draw in ordinary years a portion of their grain supplies from Manchuria. The drought of last spring and the floods that followed in the autumn caused a general failure of the harvest in Shantung. Coincident with this in point of time was the prohibition against the export of grain from Manchuria which forced up the price of food in Shantung and made it scarcely procurable for money. The people had to dig up their crops and live upon the young shoots. Under these circumstances it became urgently necessary that grain should be procured from some quarter and sold at reduced rates for the benefit of the sufferers. The Famine Relief Committee accordingly proposed to send some of their members to buy up grain in the country lying between Shensi and Honan which had enjoyed a good harvest. Owing however to the great distance to be traversed this measure was found to be unsuited to the urgency of the case which, it was felt, could only be properly met by purchasing grain in parts adjoining the sea coast and importing it by steamer through the port of T'ieh-mien-kuan. The task was entrusted to Shêng Hsüan-huai, the Taotai at Chefoo, who borrowed money from wealthy merchants at Shanghai to enable him to carry it out. The chief staples of consumption in Shantung are sorghum and small millet both of which are produced in far larger quantities in Manchuria than in Shantung. Access to the supplies of Manchuria being closed by the prohibition the Taotai had recourse to Tientsin but was informed by a letter from the Viceroy Li that the grain supply of Chihli was insufficient for local requirements. The Viceroy stated the distress in Fêng-tien was acute in the districts to the South of Moukden, but that in Chin Chou and the country lying to the West of the province very large quantities of grain were stored up by people. The Viceroy himself had already obtained the Imperial sanction for a relaxation of the prohibition formerly enforced against the export of cereals from Manchuria. On receiving this information the memorialist wrote to the Military Governor at Moukden on the subject and received a telegraphic reply from the latter stating that the Imperial sanction must be received previously to entertaining the question of relaxing the prohibition. Having regard therefore to the scarcity prevailing in Shantung, and the interval which must elapse before the harvest is gathered in the Governor asks that the authorities of Fêng-tien should be directed to withdraw the prohibition as far as the west of the province is concerned in order that the Taotai at Chefoo may be in a position to procure from thence supplies of grain which he will place on the market at a reduced rate for the benefit of the people. Rescript: We command the memorialist to enter into communication with the Governor of Fêng-tien and arrange with him what is to be done in the matter.

GRAIN TRIBUTE FROM SHANTUNG.

In compliance with instructions issued by the Board of Revenue, the Governor of Shantung reports that the quantity of tribute grain to be forwarded from his province during the present year to Peking is 267,875 piculs.

DEATH OF A TAOTAL.

The Governor of Honan reports the death on the 30th January last of Ch'î-shên, the Intendant of the Nan Ju Kuang Circuit. As the Intendancy borders upon three provinces and is one where administrative questions of great importance arise, care has been taken to select an officer of tried experience for the acting appointment and the choice has fallen upon Wan Nien-ch'ing, an expectant Taotai with an excellent record.

INSPECTION OF PROVINCIAL TROOPS IN KUANGSI.

Shên Ping-ch'êng reports that previously to his departure to take up his new post in

Anhui he has made a thorough inspection of the troops in Kuei-lin Fu, a task which he regrets to add has not been undertaken by previous governors for some years past. Although the province is fairly quiet at present yet the troubles which occurred last year in several districts have shown the importance of paying careful attention to its military administration. He claims to have effected a great improvement in this respect during his tenure of office and considers that the troops in the capital may now well be regarded as a model for imitation by the rest of the province. The reviews at which he assisted passed off with great credit, the drill and general bearing of the men being exceedingly good.

Meetings.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

At the Meeting of the Council held in the Board Room, No. 23, Kiangse Road, Shanghai, on Tuesday, the 16th April, 1889, at 4 o'clock p.m.

Present:—Messrs. J. Macgregor (Chairman), M. Adler, Yeend Duer, H. H. Joseph, E. H. Lavers, E. Wheeley and the Secretary.

The Minutes of the last Meeting are read, confirmed, signed by the Chairman and passed for publication.

Cash Statement for the past week is submitted and cheques for sundry accounts are signed.

Bridge over Sin-kie Pang.—Letter from Captain Parker is read, requesting the Council to allow the small foot bridge at present in use near the Yuen-fong Road to be placed across the creek at the end of the Hwa-kee Road extension (Sin-kie Pang Road) so as to give facilities to his European tenant residing there, as he observes that they are extending the Yuen-fong Road and building a new bridge leading into Lee Hongkew, so that the foot bridge will not be required where it is. He adds that if the Council agrees to this proposal he is willing to contribute towards the reconstruction of the bridge.

Report by the Surveyor is read stating that the old bridge is useless, and that a bridge is not required at the Hwa-kee Road as there are now three native bridges in the neighbourhood within a short distance of each other.

Reply to Capt. Parker is also read informing him that as the old bridge is unfit for use it cannot be placed at the end of the Hwa-kee Road extension.

Works Matters.—The following report for March is submitted and ordered to be published:—

The following work has been completed:—**Buildings.**—A new railing has been erected in front of the Local Post Office.

Drainage.—Constructing brick drain in the Dent Road, between Broadway and Seward Roads.

Landing Accommodation.—Repairing jetty Yangtze-poo Road near Birt's Wharf.

Rifle Butts.—Building new hut for markers.

Roads.—Raising Seward Road extension, from Kung-ping Road to Broadway.

Chip-paving.—Tiendong Road, between Whangpoo Road and Broadway.

Repairing chip-paving Ningpo Road.

Curb &c. has been laid in the Yunnan Road, from Chefoo to Newchwang Road; Kung-ping Road, from Seward Road to Broadway, and on the east side of the Dixwell Road.

Metalling.—Fochow Road, from Hoopch to Kwangse Road, Yunnan, from Newchwang to Chefoo Road; Hankow Road, from Honan to Kiangse Road; Broadway, from Ming-hong to Nanzing Road; Seward Road, from Chaou-fong to Kung-ping Road; and Dixwell Road.

Outside Roads.—Small wooden bundings have been made on the Bubbling Well Road, near Siccawei Road, and on the Jessfield and Sinza Roads.

The works in progress are:—

Bridges.—Constructing an Aranga wood bridge across Soochow Creek to connect the Shansi and North Shansi Roads.

Erecting hardwood bridge across the Sin-kei-pang Creek at end of the Yuen-fong Road.

Buildings.—Building New Police Station for Louza District.

Drainage.—Constructing brick drains in the North Honan and Tsung-ming Roads.

Market Lot.—Laying Ningpo stone pavement to the Public Market, Nankin Road.

Public Garden.—Erecting an iron band stand with platform and terrace.

Rifle Range.—Raising with mud the Rifle Butts to a height of forty feet and increasing width of base to eighty feet.

Roads.—Raising with mud the Yuen-fong, North Szechuen and North Shansi Roads.

Chip-paving footpaths Hankow Road south side, from Yunnan to Defence Road.

Curb &c., is being laid in the Kiukiang Road, from Yunnan to Defence Road; and in the Yunnan Road, between Nankin and Tientsin Roads, in front of the New Louza Station.

Metalling.—Kung-ping Road, from Seward Road to Broadway.

Repairing.—Generally repairing the various roads in and outside the Settlements.

The Meeting then adjourned.

Cattle in Native Dairies.—The following report is ordered to be published with the foregoing Minutes:—

RETURN OF ANIMALS KEPT AT THE NATIVE DAIRIES.
Shanghai, 20th April, 1889.

Remarks.	1 E. cow on hire, 1 Buffalo and 1 E. calf to (Fongtang.)	1 E. calf transferred to cow column, 1 E. calf sold, 1 E. Bull bought, 1 Buffalo to (country dry).	1 N. cow and 1 Buffalo sent to country (dry).	Decrease 5.
Total.	1	1	1	1
Births	1	1	1	1
Deaths	1	1	1	1
Transfers	1	1	1	1
Returned	1	1	1	1
Lost	1	1	1	1
Stolen	1	1	1	1
Found	1	1	1	1
Other	1	1	1	1
Total	1	1	1	1

During the past week all the animals kept at the above mentioned dairies have been inspected three times. They are all healthy and free from disease.

GEORGE CAMERON,
Assistant Inspector.

Submitted, J.H.

SHERIDAN MINING COMPANY.

The adjourned annual general meeting of the shareholders in the above company was held on Monday afternoon in the offices of the Secretaries, Mr. J. M. Ringer in the Chair. There were present Messrs. A. McLeod, Hy. Morris, G. J. Morrison and T. Wood (Directors) J. Jaques, P. Cooverjee, B. P. Lalca, J. M. Young, H. Whistler, Chin Van Ping, W. C. Ward, A. M. Eckford, J. Beattie, S. Walker, G. R. Corner, S. J. Morris, E. J. Hogg, J. W. Maclellan, R. M. Campbell, R. J. Abbott, Yeend Duer, A. Thompson, Jas. Buchanan, F. J. Marshall, C. S. Sharp, J. Danenberg, F. M. Graton, Dr. Pichon, and W. J. Clarke.

The notice calling the meeting having been read by Mr. T. Wood,

The CHAIRMAN after expressing regret for the lateness of the Report and Accounts said—There are two or three points to which I might refer in reference to the accounts. In presenting the accounts last year the estimates for royalties were given at eighty thousand dollars and in addition eight thousand were expected on account of ore sent to mill but for which proceeds had not been received when the accounts were made up. That eight thousand has gone into the royalties this year and is covered by the item royalties \$81,322.27. There is another matter to which my attention has been called. Mr. Waters in his estimate for the year 1888 said that we might receive a hundred thousand taels from royalties this year and that our expenses would be fifty thousand, which would leave fifty thousand to divide. But instead of this we have received royalties of \$81,322.27 which appear to leave a deficit of \$19,200; but expenses instead of being \$50,000 have been \$20,000, thus leaving \$30,000 to the good, equal to a gain of \$10,000, and giving from \$60,000 to \$61,000 for distribution as shown in the accounts before you. These differences are owing to our having leased the mine since Mr. Waters made his estimate, the Lessees taking over work covered by Mr. Waters' estimate of expenses and paying royalty at the rate of 22½ instead of 30 per cent. as paid before. That accounts for the reduction in the expenditure. Beyond this I think there is nothing to say on the working account; but there are one or two things I would like to mention before going to the ordinary business of the meeting, in reference to the work which the lessees are doing upon the tunnel and shaft. Mr. Waters in conversation with me said that before they got back one cent for the money of their outlay they would have to expend \$150,000. I merely mention this as showing the confidence and interest they had in the continuity of the vein to the level of the tunnel and which they look upon as a certainty, and Mr. Waters also regards it as much a certainty as anything in mining can be. The outlay of the two mines the Sheridan and Mendota would be about \$218,000, the estimated cost to the Sheridan being \$109,000. You will see in my report on the mine which was sent out this morning that the lessees intended to keep the trail open during the winter though it was hard for them to do this during heavy snow. We have not had notice that the trail has been stopped, and so conclude that they have kept it open all the winter. You will understand that during the snow they do not make two trips a day; they have to make only one. At the last meeting some reference was made to Mr. Waters having negotiated the "Smuggler" mine. We have not received any official notice from him regarding the purchase. He however mentioned the matter to me, and though perhaps what he said to me may be regarded as official, he may have intended to write officially, but was prevented from communicating with us by his illness, which was a very serious one. When I saw him he was complaining of his feet, and I afterwards got a letter

saying that he was laid up suffering from his feet and rheumatism. I afterwards got a letter from Mr. Fisher saying that two of his toes had been cut off, one from each foot. I also got a pencil letter from Mr. Waters saying that he had delayed so long in getting medical advice, that if he had not got it in two or three days he would have got lock-jaw. So you see that Mr. Waters was quite unable to communicate with you, and quite unable to send his usual report for the coming year. In view of this meeting however, we wired Mr. Waters asking him if he could give some estimates for the coming year, and something as to the prospects of the mine. In reply he estimated royalties \$60,000 and stated they were making rapid progress with the tunnel, which is now in 1,700 feet, and had made another cross-cut from the shaft to the vein, and that the prospects were very favourable. That is all I have to say but if anyone wants to know anything before passing the accounts and will put their questions we will answer them if we can.

There being no questions,

The CHAIRMAN proposed and Mr. McLEOD seconded—

That the Report and accounts, ending 31st Jan., as published and as now presented to the meeting, be approved and passed.

Carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN—The next resolution, gentlemen is one which you will all agree with. It is proposed by myself and seconded by Mr. Morrison:—

That a further dividend for the year 1888 of five per cent. on the capital of the Company be declared and paid.

Carried *nem. con.*

The CHAIRMAN said the next business was to elect Directors for the current year, after which they would elect an Auditor.

Mr. R. M. CAMPBELL proposed and Mr. HOGG seconded—

That Messrs. J. M. Ringer, G. J. Morrison, Henry Morris and A. McLeod be elected Directors for 1889.

The motion being carried unanimously, Mr. BEATTIE proposed and Mr. GEO. CORNER seconded—

That Mr. J. A. Taylor be elected auditor for 1889.

Mr. BUCHANAN—Before putting that resolution to the meeting I should like to point out to the shareholders, that with the exception of Mr. Taylor a sharebroker has not been made auditor of a public company in Shanghai for many years. When Mr. Jamieson was auditor for the China and Japan Trading Company, and became a share broker, the Directors asked him to resign, and he did. It is a very bad custom to have a share broker for auditor, and while I am not prepared to propose another auditor I will vote against the resolution.

The CHAIRMAN—You are no doubt aware of the circumstances under which Mr. Taylor was elected. Mr. Taylor was elected auditor last year by the shareholders themselves. The same course is open to the shareholders now to propose some one else, and we will take a vote upon it.

Mr. BUCHANAN—I have not spoken to anyone. I have no objection to Mr. Taylor personally but only to the principle.

The CHAIRMAN—We are quite aware that it is open to that objection.

Mr. JACQUES said that although he had nothing whatever to say against Mr. Taylor, the appointment of a share broker as auditor looked bad.

Mr. BUCHANAN—Neither have I anything to say against Mr. Taylor as to his abilities but I think it is bad form when associated with his profession. I will propose that Mr. Burnan be elected auditor.

The CHAIRMAN asked Mr. Buchanan could if he find a seconder to his proposition.

As no one came forward to second the amendment it fell through and the original

resolution was put and carried, Mr. Buchanan and Mr. Jaques voting against it.

The CHAIRMAN said—As you are aware debentures to the extent of Tls. 25,000 have been issued, and it is proposed to issue Tls. 25,000 more in September to cover the cost incurred in connection with the crushing mill and inclines which has been done under authority vested in the Directors under the Deed of Settlement; but before we issue the debentures for the Tls. 25,000 in September the Directors will have to make sure that there are no liabilities of the Company to encroach upon this sum. If so the issue of Debentures will have to be decreased by a like sum, or additional borrowing power obtained. If it is found necessary to increase their borrowing power the Directors will call a meeting for the purpose and get the consent of the shareholders. He was not quite sure at present that they would have to do this, but he merely mentioned it to show what the Directors would have to do before issuing the debentures.

Mr. CAMPBELL asked could the requirements not be met by altering the date of the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said they had consulted their legal adviser, Mr. Dowdall, on the point and he said the present meeting was only for passing the Report and Accounts, and it would be necessary for the Directors to call a special meeting for the purpose of increasing their borrowing powers. However, it might not be necessary to have to do this, and he (Chairman) only mentioned it that the shareholders might know what the Directors may have to do.

In reply to Mr. MARSHALL, the CHAIRMAN said that he quite forgot to mention—though it was apart from the business of the meeting—that they had wired to Mr. Waters asking him if he could offer any of the Smuggler mine in Shanghai, and he wired back stating that he could place stock at the disposal of Shanghai to the extent of \$25,000. So far however the Directors had not mentioned the matter to anyone outside, and if any Shareholders wanted to do anything in the matter he would do the best he could to get them shares. Of course he was not speaking as Chairman of the Sheridan Co. now, but merely as Drysdale, Ringer & Co. The money would have to be sent to Mr. Waters at once.

Mr. MARSHALL—Must we apply or will we be notified?

The CHAIRMAN—You will not be notified, but if you come here we will do all we can for you.

Mr. MARSHALL—And there will be no further notification?

The CHAIRMAN—No.

Mr. HOGG said he would like to ask where this \$24,000 estimated profit from the Mill will come for the second half of the first cost of the mill, because in that case the requirements for the current year seemed to be of very moderate dimensions.—He then proceeded to analyse Mr. Waters' figures for the cost of the inclines and mill, putting them under the separate headings of Sheridan and Mendota, and, continuing, said that if he was correct in working out the figures the payment by the Sheridan during the current year would not amount to Tls. 25,000, and he asked the Chairman for some information on the point.

The CHAIRMAN said the expenses of the inclines would be \$65,000 and the mill \$75,000 or both together \$140,000 of which \$75,000 belonged to the Sheridan, 30,000 of which has been paid already, leaving forty-five thousand from the present year, and they had for this, twenty-five thousand covered by debentures issued in September; ten thousand for what was due from the Mendota for inclines and tunnel; and twelve thousand for half profit of the mill.

Mr. HOGG said he did not quite see where the necessity for the issue of debenture came in.

The CHAIRMAN said he was only telling them what he knew. They had forty-five

thousand to meet this year and to meet this they had Tls. 47,000.

Mr. Hogg asked when did they expect the inclines would be finished.

The CHAIRMAN said that Mr. Waters expected to finish them, when the junction was made with the shaft, which would be about September or October. If Mr. Hogg read his (Chairman's) report he would see that the heavy grades were nearly all done when he was there in January, and all that remained was to put down the fines and fix the gear. Mr. Waters would have them ready in September if it is necessary to finish them by that time.

Mr. Hogg said that another small item in the accounts to which he would refer was about Thomas Martin whom they were paying for stores although he still owed them a considerable sum.

The CHAIRMAN said that Martin had agreed to pay them back in stores.

Mr. Hogg said he thought they had paid him last year, but it had come back in arrears some way. He seemed a very long time in getting it. (Laughter).

The CHAIRMAN said that Martin was the same man who was doing the work on the inclines, and the company would very likely be found to owe him much more than he owed them.

Mr. SHARP asked had anything been done in reference to the timber patents which had been mentioned last year.

The CHAIRMAN replied that the patent had been applied for at Washington, but it took a long time to get, sometimes as much as two or three years. But this delay in obtaining the patent did not militate against their claim in any way.

Mr. YOUNG in reference to the question of royalties, asked how long would the present contract with the lessees continue.

The CHAIRMAN—Three years from September last. That is all the business, gentlemen and if you have nothing else to ask, I will dismiss the meeting, and thank you for your attendance.

Mr. JACQUES proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman, which was accorded by acclamation, and the meeting adjourned.

REPORT.

The Directors have now to submit for the information of Shareholders the General Statement of Accounts and Balance Sheet for Season 1888-9, ending 31st January, 1889, and in doing so they have again to congratulate the shareholders upon the satisfactory nature of the year's working and the improved prospects for the future.

The total receipts for the year are Tls. 79,695.82, being for Royalties partly at 30 per cent. and partly at 22½ per cent. The working expenses at the Mine and in Shanghai are Tls. 19,218.07, leaving a Profit of Tls. 60,590.90. Out of this, two interim dividends each of 6 per cent. have been paid, leaving a Balance of Tls. 27,145.90, out of which the Directors recommend a final dividend for the year of 5 per cent. leaving a Balance at Profit and Loss of Tls. 13,145.90 to be transferred to credit of Capital Account No. 2, which will thus be increased to Tls. 29,125.55.

The Directors regret that Mr. Waters has been prevented by illness from forwarding his usual Annual Report, but they hope to receive it at an early date when it will be at once circulated among shareholders. From latest advices everything was going on well at the Mine, and work on the Mill, Inclines, Tunnel and Shaft progressing rapidly. It is expected the Tunnel will strike the Shaft some time in October next, by which time the incline system will be far advanced towards completion.

In accordance with the views expressed by the shareholders, the Directors concluded the purchase of the Pandora Mill for about \$50,000 on Joint Account with the Mendota Mining Co. Extensions and repairs are estimated to cost a further sum of \$25,000, making the total cost about \$75,000, of this amount about half was expended up to the date of closing the Accounts, the funds having been found by the two Companies in equal proportion. The Mill was expected to be in full working order about the beginning of the present month.

During Mr. J. M. Ringer's absence in America Mr. T. Wood was invited to join the Board, but now retires. The other Directors retire as provided by the Deed of Settlement, but are eligible for re-election.

Mr. J. A. Taylor offers himself for re-election as Auditor.

J. M. RINGER,
Chairman.

Shanghai, 18th April, 1889.

WORKING ACCOUNT.

Dr.	Tls.
To 1888 Returns:—	
Royalties \$81,322.27 @ Ex. 98.	79,695.82
Transfer Fees Account:—	
Fees collected during the year.	113.15
	<u>Tls. 79,808.97</u>

Cr.	Tls.
By Expenses at the Mine 1888:—	
Pay Roll and Salaries	7,196.58
General Expenses	6,218.65
Mining Supplies	643.32
Packing	85.52
	<u>14,144.07</u>

Interest Account:—	
Balance of this Account	245.41
Exchange Account:—	
Balance of this Account	103.13
Shanghai Office:—	
Office and General Expenses	525.46
Secretaries' Remuneration	2,000.00
Directors' Fees for 1888	2,000.00
Auditor's Fees, 1887.100	
" " 1888.100	
	<u>200.00</u>
	4,725.46

Balance	
Transferred to Profit and Loss Account	60,590.90
	<u>Tls. 79,808.97</u>

BALANCE SHEET,

31st January, 1889.

Liabilities.

Dr.	Tls.
To Capital Account:—	
Paid up Capital on 2,800 Shares at Tls. 100	280,000.00
Capital Account No. 2:—	
Amount transferred from Profit and Loss Account	15,979.95
Cash:—	
Balance Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Account	953.01
Uncollected Dividend:—	
Balance of Dividend 1886	24.10
Directors' Fees:—	
For 1888	2,000.00
Auditor's Fees:—	
For 1888	100.00
Debtenture Account:—	
250 Debtentures at Tls. 100	25,000.00
Profit and Loss Account:—	
Balance of this Account	27,145.90
	<u>Tls. 351,202.96</u>

Assets.

Cr.	Tls.
By Capital Expenditure:—	
Cost of Mine and Plant, &c.	270,922.71
Building Road to Pandora Tramway	4,920.00
Building Boarding House and other permanent work on the Mine	1,058.82
Building Office	1,339.74
Purchase of "J. W. Junior" claim	1,800.00
	<u>280,041.27</u>
J. H. E. Waters' General Account:—	
Balance due by him	4,978.52
Office Furniture:—	
Shanghai and at the Mine	405.96
Property and Machinery Account:—	
Manager's Residence	3,081.64
Machinery costing	9,219.13
	<u>12,300.77</u>
Silverton Rail Road Company:—	
80 per cent. of Stock subscribed by the Sheridan Mining Co.	744.00
Shaft Account:—	
Account Contracts	3,670.50

By Sheridan and Mendota Mill:—	
Half cost of purchase of Mill, new Machinery, and expenditure on Inclines	47,105.80
Thomas Martin:—	
Account Contracts for Stores	1,956.14

Tls. 351,202.96

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.	Tls.
To Balance on 29th February, 1888	15,979.95
Working Account:—	
Balance transferred	60,590.90
Debtenture Account:—	
Premium on Debtentures	155.00
	<u>Tls. 76,725.85</u>

Cr.	Tls.
By Capital Account No. 2:—	
Amount transferred	15,979.95
Dividend Account:—	
1st Dividend, 1888, at Tls. 6	16,800
2nd Dividend, 1888, at Tls. 6	16,800
	<u>33,600.00</u>
Balance	27,145.90
	<u>Tls. 76,725.85</u>

E. & O. E.

Shanghai, 18th April, 1889.

DRYSDALE, RINGER & CO.,
Secretaries.

Audited, compared with Vouchers and General Ledger, and found correct.
J. A. TAYLOR, Auditor.

MENDOTA MINING COMPANY.

The adjourned annual general meeting of the above Company was held at the Offices of the Secretaries, Messrs. Drysdale, Ringer & Co. on Wednesday afternoon. There were present:—Messrs. J. M. Ringer (Chairman), G. Galles, D. Glass, T. Wood (Directors), D. T. Black, C. Buchanan, A. P. Wood, J. S. Knowles, J. Danenberg, and a Chinese shareholder.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, as this is an adjourned meeting, there are enough shareholders present to pass the report and accounts. You will see by the accounts that the royalties have amounted to Tls. 34,470 and the balance of Profit and Loss account is Tls. 25,506 which we have used for the purposes of the Company as I will explain further on. There is one item Tls. 6,000 among the Assets as due by sundry debtors, all this sum is good and will come back; part is made up of money overpaid in dividends last year by the management in America, and will come back when we make another payment of dividends. Owing to the illness of Mr. Waters, his report has been delayed, so we cannot lay before you a report of the probable income for 1889. Your Directors have since the meeting of last year negotiated the purchase on joint interest with the Sheridan Co. of the Pandora mill. They have also taken a joint interest in the tunnel to connect the Mendota and Sheridan with a system of inclines to convey ore from the mines to the Mill, and have written to the Sheridan Company agreeing to take half interest in the inclines also, but have not yet received an official reply. With an interest in the inclines the whole system for conveyance of ore to the Mill and for Milling will be owned jointly with the Sheridan, and as your Directors deemed this necessary for the proper working of the Company they have taken the joint interest, under the powers vested in them by the Deed of Settlement. For part payment of these works the 25,500 at credit of Profit and Loss account has been used under the new system. Mr. Waters estimates when ore is conveyed from the mines to mill by tunnel and inclines, the cost of conveying the ore and milling it will be 85 per ton if working a quantity equal to the out-put of the Mendota and Sheridan during 1888, whilst the cost of doing this under the present system is \$10

to \$10.50 per ton, and he estimates that with the additional stamps that have been added to the mill, he can work 100 tons of ore per day at an actual cost of \$2.60 per ton, hence you can see what an advantage it is to the Company to have this joint interest with the Sheridan. The cost of the new arrangements will amount to from \$78,000 to \$80,000. We have paid Tls. 25,000, leaving a liability of Tls. 55,000, and as Mr. Waters thinks the royalties for 1889 will nearly amount to \$60,000 it would seem as if all the earning of the present year will be required to meet our liabilities, but as your Directors do not think all the earning of another year should be taken for this purpose, but that the payment should be extended over a period of two or three years, they purpose borrowing money by issue of Debentures or by Mortgage of the half interest in the mill and inclines; if Tls. 30,000 be raised in this way it will suffice to cover liabilities and admit of the payment of a fair dividend for 1889. There is another thing which I should like to mention before going to the business of the meeting. You are doubtless aware that Mr. Waters was instrumental in the purchase of the Smuggler Mine. This is at one end of the Sheridan, while the Mendota is at the other. He has put \$25,000 in the "Smuggler" mine at the disposal of Shanghai. I shall be glad to give any information on this subject to any of you wishing for shares after the meeting is over.

This is all there is to say about the Report, so we will proceed with the rest of the business. It is necessary to pass the accounts and elect an auditor and Directors.

It was proposed by Mr. RINGER, seconded by Mr. D. GLASS, and carried unanimously;

That the Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st January 1889 be approved and passed.

Proposed by Mr. BUCHANAN, seconded by Mr. BLACK and carried unanimously;

That Messrs. Ringer, Galles, Glass and Simpson be elected Directors for 1889.

Proposed by Mr. GALLES, seconded by Mr. A. P. WOOD and carried;

That Mr. S. Walker be re-elected auditor for 1889.

REPORT.

The Directors have the pleasure of presenting to the Shareholders the accounts for 13 months to 31st January of the present year.

The Accounts show that Royalties amounting to Tls. 34,470.23 have been received from the Lessees of the Mine, and that expenses have been Tls. 8,977.37, leaving Tls. 25,506.75 at the Credit of Working Account.

The balance of Profit and Loss Account is Tls. 26,107.90 which has been transferred to "Sheridan and Mendota Mill Capital Account."

In September last your Directors arranged to take an equal interest with the Sheridan Mining Company in the purchase and reconstruction of the Pandora Mill, the cost of the Mill being about \$50,000; and that of reconstruction and enlargement being estimated at \$25,000; they are also negotiating with the Sheridan Mining Company for half interest in a system of Inclines and Tramways in course of construction, for the conveyance of Ore from the Sheridan and Mendota Cross-Cut Tunnel to the Mill.

Latest advices to hand report that the alterations to the Mill would probably be completed by the middle of March, and that 750 tons of Ore, the product of the Sheridan and Mendota Mines, had been delivered at the Mill for concentration, and it was hoped the supply would be increased to upwards of a 1,000 tons by the time the Mill would be ready to begin work.

To meet the expenditure already due on account of the purchase and alterations to the Mill, your Directors have used last year's Profits and have therefore transferred the balance of Profit and Loss Account, viz:—Tls. 26,107.90 to "Sheridan and Mendota Mill Capital Account."

It is estimated that the Royalties due from the Lessees during the current year will

amount to about Tls. 60,000 and your Directors expect from this source, and by borrowing Tls. 30,000 by issue of Debentures or by Mortgage on the property of the Company, to meet the current outlay for Mill and Inclines, and to pay the Shareholders a fair dividend for 1889.

It is hoped that the profits of the Mill for the current season may reach \$24,000 to \$25,000, supplies of Ore being expected from other Mines than the Sheridan and Mendota. The Directors retire from the Board and with the exception of Mr. Wood offer themselves for re-election.

Mr. S. Walker offers himself for election as Auditor.

J. M. RINGER,
Chairman.

Shanghai, 20th April, 1889.

WORKING ACCOUNT.

For 13 Months ended 31st January, 1889.

Dr.	Tls.
To Expenses at the Mine, 1889:—	
Manager's Salary, 13 months to 31st January, 1889.....	\$3,900.00
General Expenses.....	2,000.73
	at Ex. 98 \$5,900.73. 5,782.72

" Shanghai Office:—	
General Expenses Tls.	144.65
Directors' Fees for 1888.....	1,000.00
Auditor's Fees for 1888.....	50.00
Secretaries' Remuneration 1888 ...	2,000.00
	3,194.65

" Balance	
Transferred to Profit & Loss Account.....	25,506.75

	Taels... 34,484.12	Tls.
Cr.		

By 1888 Returns:—	
Royalties.....	34,470.23
" Transfer Fees.....	13.89

	Taels... 34,484.12
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PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.	Tls.
To Exchange Account.....	75.00
" Balance transferred to Credit of Sheridan and Mendota Mill Capital Account.....	26,107.90
	Taels... 26,182.90

By Balance:—	
From last Account.....	676.15
" Working Account:—	
Balance transferred.....	25,506.75
	Taels... 26,182.90

BALANCE SHEET, 31st January, 1889.

ASSETS.	Tls.
Property Account:—	
Mine, Plant, &c., costing.....	300,000.00
Cash:—	
At Bank.....	1,028.65
National Bank of Durango—	
Balance.....	279.57
Office Furniture—	
Half Cost of Safe at Mine.....	155.02
Sheridan and Mendota Mill—	
Payments on this Account.....	18,607.94
Sundry Debtors.....	6,086.72
	Tls. 326,157.90

LIABILITIES.

Capital Account:—	
3,000 Shares at Tls. 100.....	300,000.00
Accounts Payable:—	
Auditor's Fee, 1888.....	50.00
Sheridan and Mendota Mill Capital Account:—	
Amount transferred from Profit and Loss.....	26,107.90
	Tls. 326,157.90

E. & O. E.

Shanghai, 20th April, 1889.

J. M. RINGER
G. GALLES
D. GLASS
J. SIMPSON
T. WOOD

DRYSDALE, RINGER & Co.,
Secretaries.

I have examined the Books and Vouchers of the Company and certify that the above statements are in accordance therewith.

S. WALKER, Auditor.

NORTH CHINA INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

The tenth ordinary general meeting of the shareholders in the above Company, was held yesterday afternoon in the Head-office 9, Hankow Road, Mr. E. H. Laviers presiding. There were present:—Messrs. F. H. Bell, D. Brand, J. A. Hawes, H. R. Hearn, A. C. Westall, A. G. Wood (Directors), J. Morris, V. D. O. Wintle, E. Davis, W. W. Clifford, J. R. Michael, R. Mackenzie, F. C. Bishop, C. Cromie, C. Möller, W. C. Ward, J. M. Young, H. J. Dyer, P. Arnold, A. Anderson, L. F. H. Roustau, R. Francis, W. H. Anderson, H. I. Price, E. J. Hogg, A. S. T. Clifton, J. Beattie, G. Clark, R. D. Starkey, W. Gilbert, J. C. Harmon, and Alex. Ross (Secretary), representing in all 1,683 shares.

The notice having been read by Mr. Ross,

The CHAIRMAN said:—We usually accept the report, accounts, and minutes of the previous ordinary general meeting as read, and with your consent we will do so on this occasion. Your interest in the Company is, I trust, a sufficient guarantee that the report and accounts have been carefully studied, and you will doubtless admit that they contain a clear statement of the Company's business. The 1887 account has been closed, and it is satisfactory to find that the hope of further profit, which I expressed at our last meeting, has been realised, inasmuch as we have found ourselves in a position to place Tls. 20,000 to Reserve. This may not be considered a very important amount, but still it forms a useful addition to that fund, in conjunction with the proposed appropriation of Tls. 40,000 from the profits of the past year. The working of the year 1888 must be I think considered satisfactory, our premia showing a large increase, while the amount paid on account of losses and claims is comparatively moderate. The increase in premia, to which I allude, has arisen principally in London, and is due to the wider field upon which it has been found expedient to enter there, in view of the fact that former sources of income have become much curtailed by reason of the reduced rates obtainable in the Eastern trades. I trust the distribution of profits recommended by the Directors in their report, absorbing about Tls. 307,000, will prove acceptable, but I may mention that as usual, it is only intended to be preliminary, and as we are retaining a considerable sum, say Tls. 272,000, pending the expiry of liabilities and maturing claims, I hope a favourable termination of outstandings will enable us to supplement our present proposals when the 1888 accounts are finally closed. It is gratifying to note that our London funds continue to increase, and considering the uncertainty as regards the value of silver, you will readily recognise the importance of extending our sterling investments. I may state for your information that the market value of our investments generally shows a fair margin over and above the values given in the Balance Sheet, but at present we do not deem it desirable to deal with the difference as a matter of account. I have no further remarks to make, but before putting the resolution to the meeting for the adoption of the report and accounts, I shall be happy to give any further information in my power, which you may wish for.

There being no questions,

It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. F. H. BELL and unanimously adopted:—

That the Report and Accounts to 31st December last, as now presented, be adopted and passed.

The CHAIRMAN in proposing the second resolution which was as follows, said he thought they could congratulate the shareholders upon the successful business of the year, considering the competition that prevailed:—

That the following interim distribution of profits for the year 1888 be now declared:—Interest at the rate of ten per cent. on the paid-up capital and a bonus of fifteen per cent. on the shareholders' contributions. Interest on the reserve fund to 31st December, 10s. 8d. per share and an addition of Tls. 40,000 to the reserve fund.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. A. G. WOOD and carried unanimously.

Proposed by Mr. W. C. WARD, seconded by Mr. P. ARNHOLD—

That Messrs. Bell, Brand, Hawes, Hearn, Lavers, Westall and Wood be re-elected Directors of the Company for the current year, and that their remuneration be Tls. 6,000.

Carried *nem. con.*

Proposed by Mr. C. CROMIE, seconded by Mr. J. BEATTIE—

That Messrs. White and Burman be re-elected Auditors of the Company for the ensuing year.

Carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN—With the exception of informing you that the dividend warrants will be sent out to-morrow, I have nothing further to say, and as far as the Directors are concerned that finishes the business of the meeting.

Mr. BISHOP proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman, which was accorded by acclamation and the meeting adjourned.

Amusements.

THE MENDELSSOHN EVENING.

The Mendelssohn evening given under the auspices of the Shanghai Literary and Debating Society on Tuesday at the Lyceum was participated in by one of the largest and most appreciative audiences that have ever filled the theatre.

The lecture on the great Master by the Rev. H. C. Hodges, M.A., who treated his subject in a lucid, interesting, and sympathetic manner, was listened to with great interest, and the lecturer proved himself quite as eloquent a platform orator as he is known to be in the pulpit. But the intellectual and biographical portion of the programme although it was well done, only served as an excuse for the admirable selection from the instrumental and vocal music of the master which followed. The opening number of the musical part of the programme was the overture "Meerestille und Glückliche Fahrt" Op. 27, by the members of the Philharmonic Society which was admirable in point of time, unison and balance. Indeed we think that the Shanghai public do not quite enough appreciate the high degree of excellence of the music which the society under the experienced and masterly tuition of Chev. Vela gives them with such willing readiness. The four-part songs "Wem Gott will rechte gunst erweisen" No. 1. Op. 75, and the "Rheinweinflied," Op. 76, were well given by eight members of the Liedertafel, after which Mrs. Heemskerk played the duet No. 18 and the well-known and beautiful spinning song, exceedingly well and with an excellent touch and finish. Mrs. Lavers' singing of "Auf Flügeln des Gesanges" was received with loud applause which no doubt was quite as much a personal compliment to the lady as to the artiste. The programme which contained fifteen numbers was too long for us to go through it in detail to-day, and we will without intending invidious distinctions just mention two or three of the numbers which were the most striking, namely the string quartette by Messrs. Vela, Lundt, Danenberg, and Bichler; the two-part song, "Greeting," No. 3, by Mesdames Lancaster and Moutrie,

both charming voices; the air for bass "Es ist Genug" by Mr. Stepharius; the pianoforte duet of two catchy movements, by Messrs. Bichler and Vela, which was one of the bright pieces of the evening. Mrs. Lancaster's singing of "Jerusalem" from St. Paul was an ambitious effort, and gave her an opportunity of showing both the strength and range of her voice, which though of good quality still needs training. Mr. Wedemeyer's fine voice was well heard in the "Frühlingslied." Altogether the programme was immensely enjoyed by the large audience and shows how admirably the S. L. & D. S. can carry out such a pleasant and grateful undertaking. We must not close without mentioning the extremely tasteful arrangement of the stage, and the indefatigable and valuable exertions of M. Vela, who took part in every number but two of the long programme.

THE AMY SHERWIN COMPANY AT THE LYCEUM.

Those of our readers who have perused the flattering notices of this troupe in our Hongkong contemporaries and who were present at Wednesday night's entertainment must have gone away with the sense of their expectations having been more than realised. We ourselves were somewhat doubtful as to whether so small a number of performers could satisfy the somewhat pampered appetite of the Shanghai public: but from the first number of the concert to the fall of the curtain on the operatic selection, the individual excellence of the artistes, the class of music and the general finish and completeness of the performance, give us the fullest confidence in recommending this company to any one who has the least liking for good music well performed, or an evening's amusement of a very high standard indeed.

Commencing with the instrumentalists we may say that both the pianist and flautist are excellent. Mr. Geo. Clutsam, whose accompaniments throughout were marked by great taste and sympathy, played a *Marche Hongroise* by Kowalski with great brilliancy and masterly execution, through we think he would have been heard to better advantage had the piano been placed in the centre of the orchestra. Mr. John Lemmone's numbers were both well given, and we were much struck by his execution of rapid variations, and the sweetness and clearness of tone in his piano passages. To turn to the vocalists, we did not hear very much of Mr. Sherwin as he was suffering from indisposition and in our opinion his voice lacked the necessary force for the lower notes in the well-known duet *Love and War* by Cooke. Mr. Stockwell, the tenor of the troupe, possesses a voice of remarkable beauty and range; his high notes are clear and pure without a suspicion of falsetto, and he has an amount of power in his lower register rarely found in this voice. This was most marked in his rendering of the *Message*, his singing of which so pleased the audience that they insisted on an encore, and he responded to this by an exquisite rendering of *Let me like a soldier fall*, that most excellent stand-by of all tenors: this gentleman also obtained an encore for his second song, the catchy *Estudiantina* by Lacombe, substituting *My Pipe* from *Rip van Winkle*. Miss Minna Fischer has a mezzo-soprano voice of great beauty; we were told she was suffering from a cold, but this was hardly noticeable in her charming song *The beating of my own heart* by Macfarren, which would certainly have been encored had it come later on in the evening. As in the case of Mr. Sherwin, so we hope to be able to have a better opportunity of judging of this lady's powers later on.

That Miss Amy Sherwin was an artiste we had heard and read, but that she was a Prima Donna of the first rank, we had not imagined. She has a voice of singular beauty

and clearness, trained to a pitch of excellence which must place her at the top of her profession: whether in the florid *Little bird so sweetly singing* (Allen) or in *Home, sweet Home*, a melody which must and does appeal to the most callous amongst her audience of exiles, she showed that she sang the meaning of her songs and not the melodies only. Her enunciation is perfect and her execution admirable, especially the long shake which she used to great advantage in the first act of *Marta*, and her power of sustaining a high note without any loss of pitch. In fact we may say that to hear Miss Sherwin sing is a treat which no one should deny himself, and in saying this we would wish to convey a great deal.

The selection from Flotow's *Marta* was a most happy one. True, the first act had to be considerably curtailed owing to its being composed largely of music for chorus, but in both the first and third acts the finished character of the performance made one forget that there was anything wanting. As the curtain rose we were introduced to *Lady Harriet* (Miss Sherwin), and her friend *Nancy* (Miss Fischer) who is trying to persuade *Lady Harriet* to throw off her feeling of listlessness and ennui, and join in the pleasures of the court where she (*Lady Harriet*) is a Maid-of-Honour. To them enters *Sir Tristram* (Mr. Sherwin), an old beau who still considers himself irresistible, and who proceeds to bore *Lady Harriet* still further by his efforts to amuse her. He is however interrupted by the song of the servants going to the Hiring Fair, which *Lady Harriet* suddenly resolves to visit together with *Nancy*, disguised as serving maids; she also compels *Sir Tristram* to join them, and the scene concludes with the amusing dancing lesson. The second act shows the interior of *Plunkett's* (Mr. Sherwin) farm where he and *Lionel* (Mr. Stockwell) bring *Lady Harriet* and *Nancy* home as their servants. The ladies naturally refuse to do any work and in the end make the two farmers spin for them. Meanwhile *Lionel* can no longer control his admiration for *Martha*, as *Lady Harriet* calls herself, and declares himself, saying that he will cast his rank and station aside if she will only be his wife. She of course laughs at him, and the act ends by *Nancy* being brought in by the ear by *Plunkett* from the kitchen and the dismissal of the girls to their rooms. Where all acquitted themselves so well it would be invidious to particularise but we may say that Mr. Stockwell and Miss Sherwin in their duet were excellent, the tenor taking B flat in alt from the chest with the greatest ease. Miss Sherwin's charming singing of *The Last Rose of Summer* wound the audience up to the greatest enthusiasm, so that she had to respond to the demand for an encore, giving *Home, Sweet Home* with so much real feeling that there was the most utter stillness in the house during the whole song, and the last phrase with its saddening cadence was received with a momentary silence, and then an outburst of applause prolonged and hearty. Of the concerted pieces the spinning quartet and the finale *Good Night* were the most noticeable.

Finally we may say that although the house on Wednesday last was not a poor one considering all things, yet the company deserve a much better, and we hope that to-morrow when they play *Balfe's Sleeping Queen* in its entirety, the audience will be as large as the merit of the singers is conspicuous.

Correspondence.

THE FAMINE.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—Having lately arrived at the village in the district of Lo-an, in the province of Shantung, where the Rev. Mr. Laughlin is

engaged in famine relief work, I may possibly give a few items and observations that will be of interest to the public. If I followed the precedent of others, I ought to report to Mr. Laughlin, Mr. Laughlin to Dr. Nevius, Dr. Nevius to Mr. Muirhead, Mr. Muirhead to the *Daily News*, and the *Daily News* to the world. I will, however, take next to the most daring leap, and report direct to the *Daily News*.

At present in one general locality in this province of Shantung there are nine centres for distributing relief. I will merely indicate the outline. East of Chi-nan Fu on the main road some fifty miles is the city of Chou-ping, where Mr. Smyth is stationed to aid in transmitting money, and as general messenger-boy. South of that city a day's journey is the city of Po-shan, where Mr. Nickalls is distributing to a few thousand, while to the north another day's journey is the city of Kao-yuen, where Mr. Drake has established another centre. North-east of the latter city, in the district of Po-hsing some twenty miles is the distributing centre under the present care of Mr. Bruce, and from there further north in the same district some twenty miles is the centre where Mr. Whitewright with his family is located. From the latter centre another day's journey to the north-east in the district of Li-chin on both sides of the Yellow River is the work carried on by Mr. Jones and Dr. Watson. Returning again to the place where Mr. Bruce is stationed, we notice another centre a day's journey to the south in the same district of Po-hsing, while to the east some ten miles, also in the same district, was the former working centre of Mr. Laughlin with his wife, while eight miles further to the east in the district of Lo-an is the present centre of the same. Going to the south-east from the latter place some eight miles is the village where Dr. Neal with his wife are hard at work, not only in relieving the famishing but in caring for the sick and in studying the nature of the famine fever. If we go on still further to the east in the district of Shou-kuang we shall find a centre under the management of Mr. Couling. Thus altogether there are six districts, mostly in the prefecture of Ch'ing-chow-fu, where relief is being rendered by foreigners. In the city of Ch'ing-chow-fu Mr. Forsyth is employed in supplying the silver for several of the centres to the north, as well as doing an immense amount of business incident to such an undertaking.

Along the Yellow River in different districts distribution is being rendered by Messrs. Bergen and Chalfant.

It is expected that the need for help on the present basis will last till the first part of June, if not later. In many parts there is hope of a good crop of spring harvest, but in others there will be nothing till the coming autumn.

Journeying along the main road from Chi-nan Fu after two heavy rains I found no more signs of distress than I had previously noticed in the prefecture of Yen-chow-fu. Going north to where Mr. Drake has been at work, I found matters more gloomy, and learned that the particular quarter which he has especially aided was worse than what I myself saw. Going further to the north to where Mr. Bruce is, the need seemed still greater, and still more so as I journeyed east to where Mr. Laughlin is located. From what I hear, alike from foreigners and natives, I would judge that the worst of all was still further to the north until we reach the region where Mr. Jones is employed.

Some places, like where Dr. Mateer and Mr. Nickalls are located, have much distress and many deaths, but at the same time they have more wealthy families who ought to aid in part. In some cases they attempted to do something, but the burden became too heavy, or assaults were made by robbers, so that from these and other reasons there is a general indifference and hardness of heart.

Some of the districts like Po-hsing, Ch'itung and Lo-an are having a partial remission of the spring taxation, and in this way the Emperor is aiding his people.

In all my journey here I found the people unusually kind and respectful, a delightful change from Chi-nan Fu treatment. The foreigners occupy the best house in town, and the good name of foreigners is shining with startling brilliancy. Really from this point of view the famine or rather the relief is a rare treat.

No particular troubles have arisen in the relief work in these agricultural districts. Take, however, the section along the Yellow River where Messrs. Chalfant and Bergen have distributed money, and there is found a large demoralised pauperised element, always hard to manage. This class of persons are composed of those aided in past years and even the last winter at the free food-shops in Chi-nan Fu. It is a question whether the general free distribution, unless connected with a scheme for providing labour, may not enhance rather than diminish the pauper element. Multitudes should be set to work, and thus answer in part the demands of reason and practicability as well as those of humanity and generosity.

The whole work in some form or other is one of duty. The less the chance for native aid, the more the need for foreign aid. The picture of the distress has already been given by others, and I have no sufficient vocabulary to improve the dark gloomy outline, that seems to be like a low rainy cloud dropped down at night upon the passing traveller. To dwell on the scene merely harrows the feelings, unless a remedy can be supplied.

Coming to aid Mr. Laughlin for a few days, I find everything fully arranged. The money is contributed, committees are formed, messengers are on the road, telegrams are sent free of charge, banks are competing, book-keeping is scientific, the names of the distressed have been carefully chosen, there are fixed days and places for distribution to the village elders, and the whole great machine moves round without a jar or a break. I merely stand by to drop on the oil, to turn a crank, and watch the calmness of the managers, and to await 'orders.'

Probably in Shantung this year over 100,000 taels will be distributed, and from first to last upwards of 150,000 persons aided. We cannot but regard this as a wonderful example of generosity, coupled as it is with the aid rendered in other provinces.

Mr. and Mrs. Laughlin were the first to enter upon the work, coming the last of December, and remaining here ever since. According to the plan adopted, nothing but commendation should be rendered by a novice like myself. In fact all the foreigners in this section are working on the same plan and at the same rates, thus preventing much complaint and jealousy.

Just as I close this letter, I see the following appeal from Mr. Jones concerning the distress by the mouth of the Yellow River in a note to Mr. Whitewright: "For mercy's sake get Reid or some one to settle north or north-east of you for we can't touch a fifth of the distress. Proportion of distress beyond all measure and estimate." In a few days we may be able to decide concerning this urgent call of a cool-headed Englishman. In the meanwhile I remain,

Yours very truly,

GILBERT REID.

9th April.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

DEAR SIR,—While thanking you for the excellent article you wrote a few days ago about the famine work, rebutting the objections in some quarters to the frequent repetition of the subject, I do not want to pile up the "agony" column, though I cannot refrain sending you the latest news

from the famine field. Information is wanted in regard to it, and it is a much less painful matter to read about it than to experience or even to witness the terrible suffering that is going on.

A long letter has come from Tientsin recounting the state of things in the northern parts of the Yellow River, the relief efforts hitherto made being on the south side of it. I beg to send you a curtailed statement of what is before me.

Yours faithfully,
WM. MUIRHEAD.

23rd April.

Mr. Candlin of the Methodist Mission, Tientsin, says:—"I have seen a number of the letters sent to the Shanghai papers by missionaries who are now engaged on the other side of the Yellow River, in which particulars are given of the symptoms of famine they have met with. These are the total want of grain or clothing in the houses, the absence of farming and domestic animals, horses, mules, donkeys, dogs, fowls, and the miserable starving appearance of the people, their swollen features and enfeebled limbs, their subsistence on chaff and cotton seeds, etc., and the large numbers daily to be met with wending sadly forth from the famine-stricken region, but I am able to testify from personal observation that all these things are paralleled and more than paralleled in the districts of Li Chin, Chan Hwa, Hai Feng, Pin Chou, Hui Min and part of Yang Shin. The chief difference seems to be that your famine on the south of the river has broken out quite recently, whilst to the north here it is of several years' date. For four years successively commencing with 1883 there have been terrible floods from the Yellow River transforming the country into a vast lake and the villages, such as were not swept down by them and many were, into small islets. Communication from village to village has been by boat during a large part of the year, there has been no harvest whatever except that in some parts one of the years, there was a little spring wheat with no autumn crop. Last year there was no break in the northern bank of the river, but the rain was so heavy as to utterly destroy all kinds of produce. This year the floods have returned. Again the state of things to the south of the river seems to offer reasonable ground for expectation that if you can tide the people over some few months of distress, there is a prospect of amendment. In our case I regret deeply to have to report there is no such hopeful outlook. The present is dark and cheerless and so far as human eye can discern, the future is utter blackness. We do not know, we cannot learn of any chance of improvement within the next few months or even the next few years. Meanwhile the whole region is gradually being depopulated, the complete destitution described in so touching a manner in the letters from the famine field which have already appeared has been manifested in rapidly increasing degree for the past six years. It has crept upwards from the poorer class to the richer, enclosing its victims in the grip of a more merciless want from year to year, and by an ever narrowing circle it has closed upon its prey until now those who were formerly well to do and even rich are the only ones left to feel its ravages. From time to time as we have passed through this region, often taking boat for ten or twelve English miles over the fields once fertile and smiling with harvest, and passed village after village where abundance of food and contentment were formerly known, as we marked the haggard looks of the people slinking about with nothing to occupy their time, the complete absence of those stores of food and fuel so conspicuous through the country in its normal condition, the broken or fallen houses, the desolate streets, the damp and malarious atmosphere, the cheerless fields reduced to lake or marsh, one knew not

which to pity most, the poor wanderers, not strong men alone, but old men, weak women, little children and infants in arms, with all their worldly possessions heaped upon a wheelbarrow, going forth wherever the highway might lead to seek what help the wide world might give, or the miserable watchers whose former better fortune is now their curse, as now the lands which bear no grain, and the large homesteads stripped of the last vestige of their former comfort, are the ties which bind them to their starving fate, and the tenacity with which they cling to the last stick of timber, and call it home, where it is only ruin, adds the last touch of sorrow to the harrowing scene.

Now I have simply to ask if you would wish us to undertake the work of distribution in this region? It is only on the borders of our mission field, though a number of our churches are within the dark circle. I beg you will consider what is best to be done, and I shall hold myself in readiness to further the wishes of the committee.

Yours truly,

GEO. T. CANDLIN.

Tientsin, 13th April.

DEAR MR. MUIRHEAD,—I wired you yesterday and hope it has been received and we may yet have funds to carry on the work which is so much needed. Mr. Jones in his letter to me yesterday states that the area of distress in the Wu-ting-fu district is "practically limitless." Most of the ground is under water and the people are dying fast; without our help seven out of every ten, it is said, will die within the next few weeks, and in June there is no prospect of a harvest. The need being so great and urgent the men in the field have decided to use the Tls. 12,000 for seed grain in extending their enrolment which now reaches a total of nearly 170,000 persons. This work is therefore as you will perceive assuming gigantic proportions, and we trust you and the members of the Shanghai community will not relax your efforts in helping us all that is possible.

I could write much more, but am simply driven by stress of work to reduce writing to the lowest possible minimum, and I hope this will be my sufficient excuse for not sending further information at this time.

Your faithfully,

R. C. FORSYTH.

Chefoo, 12th April.

DEAR MR. MUIRHEAD,—I distributed the bulk of the Tls. 1,500 you kindly sent me in the district directly north of us and some 30 li from the city, upon the north bank of the Yellow River. Here occurred last year a disastrous break in the banks which literally annihilated several villages and converted the country for twenty li into a sandy desert. My helper and I enrolled fifteen villages within the limits of this district embracing about one thousand families and aggregating 4,534 adults and 1,018 children. These people are in a peculiarly desperate condition as indeed are all the people whom we are attempting to aid, for many of them owing to the repeated inundations have not had a fair crop of any sort for four or five years, and they never can have another for the simple reason that their land is buried some ten feet under drifting sand. In the village which I made my headquarters for the six days occupied in the enrolment, the village temple and most of the houses which had not been raised were buried to their eaves in yellow sand. The least breath of wind stirs up clouds of dust making work in the neighbourhood very trying; on one occasion a party consisting of four natives of the place my helper and myself were completely lost for the good part of an afternoon in a duststorm. At the village in which we stopped were a man and his wife who had just lost their three little children, two little boys and a little girl, who ventured out

into one of these cold windstorms to try to find some fuel and were frozen to death. I heard of two other cases of death from exposure in one of these awful storms. The people are reduced to the last stages of want and have lost all hope. I urged them to leave the country as hundreds are doing but they replied that it is "too late." So far as I can see there is absolutely no hope for them aside from removal to another place. They have long since sold almost everything they possessed and are now selling the rafters of their homes. Frequent lines of barrows may be seen moving across the sandy plain toward the city loaded with this melancholy freight. The man who has a dozen of these poles between himself and starvation is looked upon as a "rich man." The majority of the people are living upon last year's bean leaves which they soak in water and chop up to be made into a miserable porridge. The people are reduced to such desperation that it is by no means an easy thing to work among them. One day a regular riot occurred in a village where we had inadvertently omitted to enroll a certain quarter. Near the river most of the people live in cornstalk huts clustered along the embankments or in "dug-outs" as they are called in western America, being simply holes scooped in the sand and covered with cornstalks. As may be supposed, disease is making havoc among them. It is not a rare thing to see rude coffins standing before the doors so loosely put together that one can easily see into them. More than once I saw corpses lying uncoffined in the house because the family could not buy even one of these miserable boxes. During the progress of our work more than thirty villages in the surrounding district sent representatives who implored us, often upon their knees, to help them. Our difficulty with this centre is that it is too near the city and most of the people have been living on public charity now and again for several years. This makes them peculiarly hard to deal with. We did not dare to attempt to distribute the funds in person but summoned the headmen of the several villages to the central village and handed over their quota to each. We gave at the rate of 350 large cash per adult and 175 per child.

I propose next month to go up to Ch'i Tung, 150 li N.E. of us and open a centre in the region which Mr. Bergen described in his last letter from Chi-nan-fu. I have been there before and know that the state of the people is, if possible, worse than that of those opposite to us.

I am, yours sincerely,

WM. P. CHALFANT.

Chi-nan-fu, 1st April.

The following report has been handed to us for publication by the Honorary Secretary of the North-China Famine Relief Fund:—To the Honorary Secretary and Treasurer of the Famine Relief Committee.

MY DEAR MR. BUSH,—Since I last wrote to you I have a fortnight's work to report. The work previously reported on was one on the east bank of the River (i.e. the branch known as the Nei Liao or Inner Liao). I had answered every application for relief from a point a little north of Newchwang proper to the boundary line between the Hai and the Liao Districts (a distance by road of some sixty odd li); when the applications from across the river led me to transfer my main work to the western bank. Here I am making a systematic exploration of a district which is roughly estimated at two thousand families. It is contained between the Inner Liao and a smaller branch known as the "West River" and extends from the Liao boundary on the north to Siao Tsie Miao (or the little port of Newchwang) on the south; the breadth from river to river is from 25 to 30 li or so, at a rough calculation; and the length much the same as the strip on the east bank above mentioned, say 60 li. The soil is of the very richest. I have never seen a greater profusion of trees (fine grown willows). The country is always spoken of as abounding in every good thing—

in good years. But from its situation between the rivers it is peculiarly subject to inundations; and in the late floods it reached the full limit of calamity. As yet I have only touched some twenty villages of this strip. But what I have seen is very distressing. One village known as Tui Yü L'o Tsu is a complete wreck, water could not possibly work further damage. The impression is everywhere made that this people has had to subsist without grain all through the winter, and will have to do so until harvest. The soup kitchens have been of little use to them. The northern limit is distant at some points a good sixty li from Newchwang proper and some forty li or more from "Ta Kao-li Fang," while the kitchen to the south-west of the city of Liaoyang was also out of the question. As far as I can make out, the only substantial help this territory has got has been due to the noble efforts of the Southern guild (Jên Yü being the common designation). I have everywhere heard this dole spoken of as honest and wide-reaching. Three villages on my list declare they lost it on account of the miry state of the country which made their place inaccessible. Otherwise it gives one some faith in the Chinese to hear them speak so gratefully of the good done by the Southerners. The grant was in money and is given as four *tiaos* (of our style) per adult and two *tiaos* per child. As for the rest they seem to have subsisted on their magnificent willows. They had the bark for their food, and from time to time doubtless they were able to make a little by the sale of the wood as fuel. Now that the river is open I see a considerable traffic in chopped wood which finds its way to Newchwang and Yingtsu. Timber felling, indeed, has been the one occupation of the winter—and continues so up to date—if we except the last few days where there is a movement towards agricultural pursuits. But the great mass of the people, it seems to me, have simply huddled together on their kang's all winter subsisting on grass, willow leaves and bark and such like; while a certain proportion have gone wide afield begging, or loafed about soup kitchens. I saw a sight the other day not easily forgotten—nearly a thousand people passed under my eye in two days' time while we were discharging grain brought up from Newchwang proper by boat, and it was a painfully common thing to see men stagger clumsily under a bag containing only two "*tau*" of kaoliang. Some old men seemed to have that shaking fit I spoke of in a previous report and could not be trusted to walk the plank even empty handed. Some likely young fellows to look at found a difficulty with one "*tau*." I have never seen such a shambling lot among Chinese peasants. And there was only the one explanation thought of by the people themselves, as appeared when we twitted them for their unusual awkwardness—"Why we have had nothing to eat all winter, how should we have strength?" It seems that if we had simply given them a grain ticket on a hong in Newchwang proper a large proportion of the crowd I speak of could not possibly have done the journey. The work of this fortnight has a new feature in the fact that I have made an effort to sow down the whole district in barley. A native resident at one of the Imperial ferries, and a most suitable place for discharging, put his house at our disposal, and we have been enabled to carry out the work most effectually by shipping to a point 80 li by river from Newchwang proper and distributing thence over the country—on both banks of the river. We distribute in quantities representing half acre and acre plots, allowing $\frac{3}{4}$ Newchwang "*tau*" to the acre of 10 mu, or large acre, and 2 *tau* to the half acre. On the east bank we have given the seed without any other grant as we have twice during the winter given them grants of money. But on the west bank the hunger was so apparent and so openly confessed that we give a dole all round of one "*tau*" of kaoliang or 'Yellow Beans,' and then add a grant of seed (barley) to such as have been entered on our list as owning less than ten acres of land. For convenience we now load each ship with both kinds and discharge both together by means of the same tally. We are not in a position to judge of the success of the adventure. We are certainly in order in the matter of barley. Though wheat seed costs more than double and could be of more use as food, (to the dishonest who only want the grain to eat it), we are in every instance informed

that it is too great a risk to sow wheat this year—that everything must this year be subordinated to the law “of the greatest chance”—that barley is a more certain crop and an earlier, etc., etc. Even wheat growers are this year compelled to think of the absolute dearth of food. And I know of farmers of capital who are sowing down large lots in barley for the sake of an earlier and surer realisation of their money. Our only trouble is with dishonesty. I am informed that a woman was seen offering her bag of barley seed for five *tiao*, which cost nearly ten to the generous donors. My informant cannot say whether a transaction was effected or not. We have certainly used every precaution we can think of, but what are precautions in a time like this, and among a lot like the Chinese? Land ownership is a great mystery in China. And even where the ownership is proved, it baffles ordinary minds to know whether the land is or is not in pawn like the owner's clothes and personal effects. The chances are he has let out his land to a man of means or he is in the common partnership by which a man a little better off than himself works the land, and pays the owner by a share of the crop. In any case he wants the grain, while we on our part have to exert great watchfulness to prevent barefaced imposition. It illustrates the nature of the country I am working in that the safest proof of ownership of land is what I may call the Dyke Registers. That is, not only is the river thoroughly embanked, but similar embankments or dykes protect the country at an angle with the river. To keep these in order everybody is assessed according to the amount of land he possesses. These registers, moreover, are made up every year, and in a manner are always up to date. Our agents therefore are instructed to demand a sight of the registers and to transcribe them for themselves. This greatly facilitates matters and gives us a safe footing.

I am leaving again on the 15th for Chia Chang Ssu, a place forty *li* to the N.W. of my present head-quarters on the river (at Lao Ts'iang T'ou or “old wall head”) where I am told there is great suffering. Many from that place have sought us out in Hai Cheng, and I have been requested by the head partner in Fu T'ai Hing grain hong (Newchwang) to look it up. I am not aware whether it has ever been visited or relieved by friends from Yingsu. If it was I shall be glad to be informed. From present information I suppose a week's trip will cost me nearly two thousand taels or say twenty thousand taos at ten taos per family. Your grant of five thousand taels was therefore most opportune. At this present moment my account with you for four thousand taels shows cash on hand only one shoe of sycee, and three hundred taos in paper. But on Monday I shall probably learn at Newchwang that of the new grant of five thousand taels, one thousand taels is already due Fu T'ai Hing for grain.

This money does not seem to go far. It is all spent in large transactions. I am reducing my expenditure with my increasing experience. Ten taos per family is now a high figure. I save considerably by giving in grain, which grant runs about five taos per family. I can thus cover more ground and again if need be I can repeat the dole.

With best thanks to the Committee for the confidence reposed in me.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN MACINTYRE.

Hai Ch'eng, 13th April.

“THE NEW REFORMATION.”

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—The interest taken by the reading public in Mrs. Humphrey Ward's theology will be requisitioned for the study of her article in the March number of the *Nineteenth Century* on “The New Reformation.”

In that article is pretty fully disclosed the whole foundation of her critical knowledge of, and of her belief, or unbelief, in Revelation. The article is full of the learning of twenty years ago of the German Encyclopedics; and no notice is taken of more recent works by which the so called “criticism” of those days is proposed to be refuted; nor are any of their results so

much as hinted at. I find in the list of the “Shanghai Library” the leading works of Renan and others of the “Critical School” but none of the Authors who take opposite views. Such works as the following would probably be interesting to subscribers to the Library:—

“The Supernatural Origin of Christianity,” by Professor Fisher of Yale College.

“The Grounds of Theistic and Christian Belief,” by the same.

“Jésus Christ et son temps,” by Pressensé, the distinguished French Protestant writer, (in reply to Renan's *Vie de Jésus*).

Perhaps some of your readers could suggest others for the information of the Library Committee.

Yours truly,

ENQUIRER.

CHANGES IN NANKING.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—Six years ago, in company with a friend, I stood upon one of the hills overlooking the river just inside the walls of Nanking. The Viceroy Tso, with a large retinue, had descended to the *Hia Kuan* to witness a torpedo experiment: he had come down in one of the clumsy native craft. After we had all gone off except the torpedoes, I imagined that His Excellency must have been considerably out of sorts especially so as his boat, so I heard, did not pull up to the 漢西 until towards midnight owing to an unfavourable wind.

Having occasion to visit this city of magnificent distances a few days ago, I found that a comparison of the present with the former state of things, brought out the fact that this mighty mass of undeveloped possibility, this huge piece of ancient *bric-a-brac*, the Empire of China, has at last begun to rotate.

In the harbour, commanding the approaches to the city, carrying clean, shining guns, lay two men-of-war flying the dragon flag; with the forts on the shore which are well kept and formidable, the Chinese could make a very strong fight if attacked. I noticed that trees have been planted on the shore and a Bund made so that with a strong wall of brick and stone for their fortresses the encampment is quite foreign looking.

My boat is now stopped, and a blank in English is politely handed me. I am requested to answer in writing the following:

What is your name in full?

Nationality?

Where are you from?

Are you travelling on business or for pleasure?

Let the reader look at these questions again, and he will see that if a man answers all of them (which no American would be willing to do) the Chinese gentlemen at the 洋務 Office would come into possession of considerable information as far as he is concerned. Many steam launches lie about, and I was much impressed when a little skiff rigged up with an engine shot past us like a meteor as we wound our way up the canal along the city wall. The whole appearance and spirit of things was so different from Confucius whose very sleeping dress was half as long again as his body: by way of parenthesis I would add that the keen common-sense observer often wonders how the unfortunate philosopher got along when Confucius jr. had the colic after bed-time.

At the gate each launch has a jetty for its especial use. On boards are the characters 長江官碼頭, 飛馬官碼頭, etc. Before long, stone will doubtless replace the deep mud of these jetties (?)

China is passing through great changes. Although we who live here meet with many inconveniences, yet we can still say with Virgil “*Forsan et haec olim meminisse*

juvabit” or as Sir John Bowen beautifully renders it, “Memory even of these will joy in the distant years.”

Yours,

S. I. W.

Chinking, 24th April.

Miscellaneous.

THE DINNER PARTY AT THE KIANGNAN ARSENAL.

Thursday (18th) will always be a memorable day in the history of the Kiangnan Arsenal. His Excellency the Taotai of Shanghai took advantage of the official trial of the second of the large disappearing guns made at the Arsenal to invite a large number of foreign guests to be present and to partake of a dinner which was got up entirely in European style. The guests invited were the Foreign Consular officials, the Chief Customs officials and most of the leading merchants, Bank managers, etc., etc. Invitations were issued in the joint names of H. E. Kung, Taotai of Shanghai, and Nieh, Director of the Arsenal. The hour fixed for the gun trial was 3 p.m. and for the dinner 6 o'clock.

The weather proved most unpropitious. It had rained at intervals several days previously; but on this afternoon one of the most lucky days in the whole Chinese calendar, it poured in torrents hour after hour. All the Chinese Almanacs and weather prophets were at a discount, and it was feared the elaborate preparations would all prove to be in vain. But despite the opposition of the elements, visitors began to put in an appearance at the appointed time, and the new carriage drive leading to the Arsenal was alive with broughams and other vehicles.

The Taotai was equal to the occasion, and accompanied by the local officials and his train of followers stood waiting in the large front hall to receive his guests with his wide beaming face as smiling and cheerful as a summer morn. When most of the expected visitors had arrived arrangements were made for their transport on the tramway by means of trucks to the river side where the gun was to be fired. The clumsy trucks were made as comfortable as cushions and red cloth could make them, and were drawn by coolies. Some of the officials dressed in red cloth cloaks gave quite a lively appearance to the scene as the trucks ran along through the pitiless rain. On nearing the spot the military band using foreign instruments and playing weird strains of Chinese music, commenced to tune up. Each musician held an umbrella with one hand while he held his instrument or beat his drum with the other. They had all evidently been trained to be careful of their very showy uniforms. Small guns were fired in honour of the arrival of the native and foreign officials. A sort of triumphal arch of matting, and coloured red, stood at the end of the tramway where the trucks came to a standstill and the visitors dismounted. They were conducted to a large shed or pavilion which had been erected with kind forethought to the right of the gun and where natives and foreigners who did not care for too near proximity to the formidable weapon could sit at ease under shelter and watch the proceedings. The pavilion was very gaily decorated, and profusely provided with refreshments. Tea and cigars being handed round the serious business of the afternoon commenced. The huge gun was made to go through various manoeuvres showing how thoroughly it could be, by means of the hydro-pneumatic storage arrangement, under the control of one or two men only if necessary. It obeyed the slightest wish to the utmost perfection, rising and falling in its deep pit, training right and left round the whole circle, and elevating or depressing as required.

The Superintendent of the gun factory, Mr. N. E. Cornish, answered the various enquiries of those interested in gunnery on such a large scale. He stated that the gun was 22 feet 6 inches in length. The diameter at the breech was 32½ inches, and at muzzle about 17 inches. The inner tube is of one piece of steel, over which are two layers of hoops, in all nine portions, not including the breech piece and minor parts. It was loaded with 110 lbs. of brown cocoa prismatic powder, made in Germany. The projectile was about 22 inches long, and 8 inches in diameter, weighing 210 pounds. The shot used for experiment is made flat-headed to prevent its penetrating too far into the proof mound. The ordinary shot is of the same weight but 26 inches long and pointed. A single copper band suffices to make it take the rifling of the gun. The sighting was done by a native artillery officer from the neighbouring Chinese camp, and the loading and training by the native workmen from the gun factory. The target stood at the base of the proof mound and measured about 8 feet by 6 feet. The bull's eye was about 1 foot in diameter, and the distance about 350 yards. The mound is probably about 80 feet high 200 feet wide and 140 feet thick at the base. It was formerly lower, but about 15 years ago a 4lb. shot having gone over the top and passed through a Chinaman who was quietly eating his breakfast in a village about 3 miles off, the mound was raised to its present height for greater safety.

When all was ready a bugle was sounded, and all eyes looked at the target. Then came the command "Fire." The shot struck the outer edge of the bull's eye and entered the mound with a heavy "thud" scattering the mud in all directions and causing it to fall in showers two or three seconds afterwards in the river and surrounding ponds or creeks. The shot usually penetrates the mound to the distance of about 50 feet and are dug out generally in a broken state because when several are fired in succession one shot strikes another. The energy of the shot at the muzzle was calculated at about 6,000 foot-tons, enough to penetrate 16-inches of iron armour-plate, or at the distance of the target to penetrate 1½ inches. If the gun were elevated at about 20 degrees and the ordinary shot used, it would carry from 10 to 12 miles, so as to be able to bombard with ease the Foreign Settlement at Shanghai if fired from Woosung.

The way in which the pressure was measured in the chamber of the gun is interesting. A copper rod of known length inserted in a steel cylinder and called a "crusher gauge," is placed in the chamber with the powder. When the gun has been fired this gauge is carefully examined and the copper rod measured with a micrometer arrangement. The amount of compression is in exact proportion to the force of the powder, and is registered to a small fraction of a ton per square inch. In this instance the pressure inside the gun was 12 tons to the square inch or about 2,000 atmospheres, and was very far within the ultimate strength of the gun. At the trial of the former gun about the end of last year a kind of black powder had been supplied whose abnormal violence was not suspected. The gauge showed the unheard-of pressure of 40 tons to the square inch, and had not the material and workmanship of the gun been of the very highest quality a most serious accident would have resulted.

Five shots were fired at intervals of a few minutes, the last two being perfectly in the centre of the bull's eye and the other two being slightly to the right of the centre. The firing being over and everything pronounced highly satisfactory, the visitors were invited to partake of the refreshments so liberally provided in the shed. About fifty Europeans sat down to the collation which their Chinese hosts pressed them to partake of, even with a dinner in prospect at 6 o'clock. The viands

were attacked with vigour, but were hardly done justice to. As the guests rose to return to the Arsenal, it was amusing to see the crowd of coolies watch their chance of getting a taste of the good things that were left. We saw a coolie walk past a plate of sandwiches swinging his arms in the most natural manner possible. As his wide sleeves swept over the plate, in some mysterious way the whole plateful suddenly disappeared up his sleeve and he walked on with the utmost unconcern. Let us hope that he had his wife and children in his mind, and that he shared with them on his return home.

The procession back to the Arsenal was characterised by the same continued downfall of rain. Once within the official quarters however, and the uncomfortable weather was soon forgotten. The guests were ushered into the dining hall which consisted of a suite of rooms, thrown into one long room and brilliantly lighted with gas as well as candles. Nearly three hundred gas burners were lighted inside and outside the building, some of the lamps being very artistic in design. The lamps are supplied by a small gas plant which is worked on the adjacent premises. Five long tables were laid out in the most approved European fashion, with seats for about one hundred and fifty persons. There were upwards of fifty Europeans present who formed the greater half of those who had been invited. Excuses were made for the absentees on account of the inclement weather and the distance. The Taotai took his seat at the central table and the following menu was discussed:—

Turtle Soup. Bird's Nest Soup.
Rolled Soles.
Snipe on Toast. Beef Cutlets.
Truffled Paté de Fois Gras.
Chicken and Asparagus.
Roast Mutton. Roast Turkey and Ham.
Curried Chicken and Rice.
Plum Pudding. Jellies. Cakes.
Fruits. Coffee. Chocolate.

The wines were of excellent quality, especially the champagne which flowed in one continuous stream. The provisions would have done credit to a high-class European hotel.

At the close of the dinner the French Consul-General, Mr. R. Wagner, rose and proposed the health of the Taotai coupled with that of the Arsenal Director, thanking them both for their very kind hospitality, and trusting that the gun would always remain only as a wonderful and interesting piece of mechanical engineering and never have to do duty in warfare. He hoped that the present state of good feeling between China and foreign countries as exemplified by to-day's gathering would never be interrupted. The Taotai replied through his interpreter thanking the guests for their presence and pointing out that the trial of the gun was but a small affair which had been made an occasion for showing the friendly and amiable relations that existed between China and the various foreign countries they represented. He thanked Mr. Wagner for the sentiments he had expressed and reciprocated them fully. The Arsenal Director through his interpreter also thanked those present in suitable terms.

The company then gradually dispersed and with the rattle of the wheels of the last brougham terminated one of the best entertainments that has ever yet been attempted in Shanghai, where Chinese have invited and met foreigners on a large scale and cordially entertained them in European fashion. Every barrier of exclusiveness and conservatism seemed to have been broken down and no pains or expense spared to make every one feel as thoroughly gratified as possible. Who could have anticipated such an advance twenty or even ten years ago? The Chinese evidently seem to understand that the way to a foreigner's heart is through his stomach, and on this occasion the attempt to penetrate in this

direction was certainly a most effective one. It was a thousand pities that the fine weather of the next day did not commence a few hours sooner, so that the warm expression of the sentiments of the Taotai and Arsenal Director towards foreigners might have been enhanced by all the charms of a lovely Spring day.

PRESENTATION TO MR. C. B. CLARK.

A meeting of old residents of Shanghai took place on Tuesday afternoon, 23rd April, in the Surveyor's Office at the Municipal Council buildings, when Mr. T. W. Kingsmill, on behalf of the subscribers and fellow professionals, in a few brief words, presented the following address to Mr. C. B. Clark, who for the last twenty-four years has been connected with the office:—

To C. B. CLARK, Esq., A.M.I.C.E.

SIR,—We, the undersigned, in view of your approaching departure from Shanghai, take this opportunity of expressing our sincere regret at the severance of an association of twenty-four years standing.

We are glad to be able to bear testimony to your moral worth as well as to the ability and unfailing courtesy with which you have discharged the duties of Municipal Surveyor since the year 1876. During the period you have been connected with the Municipal Council, the Foreign Settlements at Shanghai have advanced from an undrained flat to a well ordered and healthy city, and to this result your labours have largely contributed. While therefore doubly regretting your departure and the failing health which has led to your resignation, we congratulate you on your approaching return to your native land and trust that under the invigorating influence of a genial climate you may be restored to health and renewed activity.

[The address was signed by many old residents.]

Mr. CLARK replied:—Mr. Kingsmill and Gentlemen,—I beg you to accept my best thanks for the handsome address you have presented me with, and for the kindly estimation you have formed of my services to the community. An association extending for nearly a quarter of a century cannot be wholly severed by me without a feeling of deep regret, and it is with more than ordinary gratification that I find this feeling is reciprocated by the public at large. It seems like entering into ancient history to talk of what the Settlements were twenty-four years ago, but the many changes and vast improvements that have taken place have virtually compressed within this period the practical life-time of Shanghai. That I have been instrumental in carrying out many public improvements is I think largely due to the cordial co-operation of my staff, and for their cheerful assistance and willing support a large measure of your praise is due. To win the commendation of the community is not always an easy matter for a public servant in any capacity. I trust you will pardon me for saying this, that, though the Model Settlement is a most public spirited place, there are no people in existence more tenacious than the residents of their individual rights. And in this connection I must address my special thanks to my fellow professional brethren, for the harmony and unvarying courtesy they have always displayed in working with me. I thank you all again for the address, and shall always look upon it as a memento of my long connection with Shanghai and the many friends I have in the place. In bidding you good-bye I shall leave you with gratitude for your many kindnesses, and all good wishes for the future prosperity and welfare of Shanghai.

Later on in the afternoon several Chinese contractors, &c., presented Mr. Clark with congratulatory tablets, &c.

CHINESE CHARACTERISTICS.

FILIAL PIETY.

To discuss the characteristics of the Chinese, without mentioning filial piety, is out of the question. But the filial piety of the Chinese is not an easy subject to

treat. These words, like many others which we are obliged to employ, have among the Chinese a sense very different from that which we are accustomed to attach to them, and a sense of which no English expression is an exact translation. This is also true of a great variety of terms used in Chinese, and of no one more than of the word ordinarily rendered ceremony (*li*), with which filial piety is intimately connected. To illustrate this, and at the same time to furnish a background for what we have to say of the characteristic under discussion, we cannot do better than to cite a passage from M. Callery (quoted in the 'Middle Kingdom'); "Ceremony epitomises the entire Chinese mind; and in my opinion, the Book of Rites is *per se* the most exact and complete monograph that China has been able to give of herself to other nations. Its affections, if it has any, are satisfied by ceremony; its duties are fulfilled by ceremony; its virtues and vices are referred to ceremony; the natural relations of created beings essentially link themselves in ceremonial—in a word, to that people ceremonial is man as a moral, political, and religious being, in his multiplied relations with family, society, and religion." Every one must agree in Dr. Williams' comment upon this passage, that it shows how "meagre a rendering is 'ceremony' for the Chinese idea of *li*, for it includes not only the external conduct, but involves the right principles from which all true etiquette and politeness spring."

One of the most satisfactory methods to ascertain the Chinese view of filial piety would be to trace the instruction which is contained on this subject, in the Four Books, and in the other Classics, especially in the 'Filial Piety Classic.' This has already been done by far abler writers, especially by Mr. Faber in his 'Systematical Digest of the Doctrines of Confucius,' as well as in a monograph devoted to this topic. Our present object is merely to direct attention to the doctrine as put into practice by the Chinese, of whom filial piety, in the sense in which they understand it, is not merely a characteristic, but a peculiarity. If the views presented do not correspond with those of some of our readers, it must be remembered that Chinese filial piety is many-sided, and the same things are not to be seen in all situations, nor by all observers. At the Missionary Conference held in Shanghai in the year 1877, a paper was read by Dr. Yates on Ancestral Worship, in which he embodied the results of his thirty years' experience in China. In one of the opening sentences of this elaborate essay, the author, after speaking of ancestral worship considered merely as a manifestation of filial piety, continues, "The term filial is misleading, and we should guard against being deceived by it. Of all the people of whom we have any knowledge, the sons of the Chinese are most unfilial, disobedient to parents, and pertinacious in having their own way from the time they are able to make known their wants." Dr. Legge, the distinguished translator of the Chinese Classics, who retired from China after thirty-three years' experience, has quoted this passage from Dr. Yates, for the purpose of most emphatically dissenting from it, declaring that his experience of the Chinese has been totally different. This merely illustrates the familiar truth, that there is room for honest difference of opinion among men, as among thermometers, and that a correct view can only be reached by combining results that appear to be absolutely inharmonious, into a whole that shall be even more comprehensive than either of its parts. That Chinese children have no proper discipline, that they are not taught to obey their parents, and that as a rule they have no idea of prompt obedience as we understand it, is a most indubitable fact attested by wide experience. But that the later years

of these ungoverned or half-governed children generally do not exhibit such results as we should have expected, appears to be not less a truth. The Chinese think and say that 'The crooked tree, when grown large will straighten itself,' by which metaphor is figured the belief that children when grown will do the things which they ought to do. However it may be in regard to other duties, there really appears to be some foundation for this theory in the matter of filial behaviour. The occasion of this phenomenon seems to lie in the nature of the Chinese doctrine of filial piety, the manner in which it is taught, and the prominence which is everywhere given to it. It is said in the Filial Piety Classic that "There are three thousand crimes to which one or the other of the five kinds of punishment is attached as a penalty; and of these no one is greater than disobedience to parents." One of the many antithetical sayings in common circulation runs as follows:—"Of the hundred virtues, filial conduct is the chief, but it must be judged by the intentions, not by acts, for judged by acts, there would not be a filial son in the world." The Chinese are expressly taught that a defect of any virtue, when traced to its root, is a lack of filial piety. He who violates propriety is deficient in filial conduct. He who serves his prince, but is not loyal, lacks filial piety. He who is a magistrate, without due respect for its duties, is lacking in filial piety. He who does not show proper sincerity towards his friends lacks filial piety. He who fails to exhibit courage in battle lacks filial piety. Thus the doctrine of filial conduct is seen to embrace much more than mere acts, and descends into the motives, taking cognisance of the whole moral being.

In the popular apprehension, the real basis of the virtue of filial conduct is felt to be gratitude. This is emphasised in the Filial Piety Classic, and in the chapter of the Sacred Edicts on the subject, which closely follows the doctrine of Tseng-tzu. The justification of the period of three years' mourning is found, according to Confucius, in the undoubted social fact, that "for the first three years of its existence, the child is not allowed to leave the arms of its parents," as if the one term were in some way an offset for the other. The young lamb is proverbially a type of filial behaviour, for it has the grace to kneel when sucking its dam. Filial piety demands that we should preserve the bodies which our parents gave us, otherwise we seem to slight their kindness. Filial piety requires that we should serve our parents while they live, and worship them when dead. Filial piety requires that a son should follow in the steps of his father. "If for the three years, he does not alter from the way of his father," says Confucius, "he may be called filial." But if the parents are manifestly in the wrong, filial piety does not forbid an attempt at their reformation, as witness the following, quoted by Dr. Williams, from the Book of Rites: "When his parents are in error, the son with a humble spirit, pleasing countenance, and gentle tones, must point it out to them. If they do not receive his reproof, he must strive more and more to be dutiful and respectful to them till they are pleased, and then he must again point out their error. But if he does not succeed in pleasing them, it is better that he should continue to reiterate reproof, than permit them to do injury to the whole department, district, village, or neighbourhood. And if the parents, irritated and displeased, chastise their son till the blood flows from him, even then he must not dare to harbour the least resentment; but on the contrary should treat them with increased respect and dutifulness." It is to be feared that in most western lands, the admonition of parents upon these terms would be allowed to fall into 'innocuous desuetude,' and it is not to be wondered that we do not hear much of it even in China!

In the second book of the Confucian Analects, we find record of several different answers which Confucius gave as to the nature of filial piety, his replies being varied according to the circumstances of the questioners. The first answer which is mentioned, is that to an officer of the State of Lu, and is comprised in the compendious expression, 'Wu wei,' which he apparently left in the mind of the querist as a kind of seed to be developed by time and reflection. The words 'wu wei' simply mean 'not disobedient,' and it is natural that Mang I, the officer who had enquired, so understood them. But Confucius, like the rest of his countrymen since, had a 'talent for indirection,' and instead of explaining himself to Mang I, he waited until some time later when one of Confucius' disciples was driving him out, when the Master repeated the question of Mang I to this disciple, and also the reply. The disciple, whose name was Fan Ch'ih, on hearing the words 'wu wei,' very naturally asked 'What did you mean?' which gave the Master the requisite opportunity to tell what he really did mean, in the following words; "That parents when alive should be served according to propriety, that when dead they should be buried according to propriety, and that they should be sacrificed to according to propriety." The conversation between Confucius and Fan Ch'ih was intended by the former to lead the latter to report it to Mang I, who would thus discover what was meant to be inferred from the words 'wu wei.' In other answers of the Master to the question what is denoted by filial piety, Confucius laid stress upon the requirement that parents should be treated with reverence, adding that when they are not so treated, mere physical care for them is on a plane with the care bestowed upon dogs and horses. These passages have been quoted in this connection, to show that the notion that filial piety consists largely in compliance with the wishes of parents, and in furnishing them what they need and what they want, is a very ancient idea in China. Confucius expressly says "The filial piety of the present time means (only) the support of one's parents," implying that in ancient times, of which he was so fond, and which he wished to revive, it was otherwise. Many ages have elapsed since these conversations of the Master took place, and his doctrine has had time to penetrate the marrow of the Chinese people, as indeed it has done. But if Confucius were alive to-day, there is good reason to think that he would affirm more emphatically than ever, "The filial piety of the present time means only the support of one's parents." That the popular conscience responds to the statement of the claims of filial piety, as to no other duty, has been already observed, but in the same connection it ought to be clearly understood what this filial piety is supposed to connote. If ten uneducated persons, taken at random, were to be asked what they mean by being "filial," it is altogether probable that nine of them would reply, that it means not letting one's parents get angry, that is, because they are not properly served. Or in a more condensed form, filial piety is 'wu wei,' 'not disobedient,' which is what the Master said it is, albeit he used the word in a 'Pickwickian sense.' If any of our readers wish to see this theory in a practical form, let them recal the four and twenty examples of filial piety, immortalised in the familiar little book called by that name. In one of these cases, a boy who lived in the 'After Han Dynasty,' at the age of six paid a visit to a friend, by whom he was entertained with oranges. The precocious youth on this occasion executed the common Chinese feat of stealing two oranges, and thrusting them up his sleeve. But as he was making his parting bows, the fruit rolled out, and left the lad in an embarrassing situation, to which, however, he was equal. Kneeling down before his host, he made the memorable observation

which has rendered his name illustrious for nearly two millenniums; "My mother loves oranges very much, and I wanted them for her." As this lad's father was an officer of high rank, it would seem to an occidental critic, that the boy might have enjoyed other opportunities for gratifying her desire for oranges, but to the Chinese the lad is a classic instance of filial devotion, because at this early age, he was thoughtful for his mother, or perhaps so quick at inventing an excuse. Another lad of the Chin dynasty, whose parents had no mosquito nets, at the age of eight, hit upon the happy expedient of going to bed very early, lying perfectly quiet all night, not even brandishing a fan, in order that the family mosquitoes might gorge themselves upon him alone, and allow his parents to sleep in peace! Another lad of the same dynasty lived with a step-mother who disliked him, but as she was very fond of carp, which were not to be obtained during the winter, he adopted the injudicious plan of taking off his clothes, and lying on the ice, which so impressed a brace of carp who had observed the proceeding from the under side, that they made a hole in the ice, and leaped forth in order to be cooked for the benefit of the irascible step-mother!

According to the Chinese teaching, one of the instances of unfilial conduct, is found in "selfish attachment to wife and children." In the chapter of the Sacred Edict already quoted, this behaviour is mentioned in the same connection with gambling, and the exhortations against each are of the same kind. The typical instance of true filial devotion, among the twenty-four just mentioned, is a man who lived in the Han dynasty, and who being very poor, found that he had not sufficient food to nourish both his mother and his child three years of age. "We are so poor," he said to his wife, "that we cannot even support mother. Moreover, the little one shares mother's food. Why not bury the child? We may have another, but if mother should die, we cannot obtain her again." His wife dared not oppose him, and accordingly a hole was dug more than two feet deep, when a vase of gold was found, with a suitable inscription, stating that Heaven bestowed this reward on a filial son. If the golden vase had not emerged, the child would have been buried alive, and according to the doctrine of filial piety, as commonly understood, rightly so. "Selfish attachment to wife and children" must not hinder the murder of a child, to prolong the life of its grandparent.

The Chinese believe that there are cases of obstinate illness of parents, which can only be cured by the offering of a portion of the flesh of a son or a daughter, which must be cooked and eaten by the unconscious parent. While the favourable results are not certain, they are very probable. The *Peking Gazette* frequently contains references to cases of this sort. The writer is personally acquainted with a young man who cut off a slice of his leg to cure his mother, and who exhibited the scar with the pardonable pride of an old soldier. While such cases are doubtless not very common, they are probably not excessively rare.

The most important aspect of Chinese filial piety, is indicated in a saying of Mencius, that "there are three things which are unfilial, and to have no posterity is the greatest of them." The necessity for posterity arises from the necessity for continuing the sacrifices for ancestors, which is thus made the most important duty in life. It is for this reason that every son must be married at as early an age as possible. It is by no means uncommon to find a Chinese grandfather, by the time he is thirty-six. The failure to have male children is mentioned first among the seven causes for the divorce of a wife. The necessity for male children, has led to the system of concubinage, with all its attendant mis-

ries. It furnishes a ground, eminently rational to the Chinese mind, for the greatest delight at the birth of sons, and a corresponding depression on occasion of the birth of daughters. It is this aspect of the Chinese doctrine which is responsible for a large proportion of the enormous infanticide which is known to exist in China. This crime is much more common in the south of China than in the north, where it often seems to be wholly unknown. But it must be remembered that it is the most difficult of all subjects upon which to secure exact information, just in proportion to the public sentiment against it. The number of illegitimate children can never be small, and there is everywhere the strongest motive to destroy all such, whatever the sex. Even if direct testimony to the destruction of the life of female infants in any region were much less than it is, it would be a moral certainty that a people among whom the burial alive of a child of three in order to facilitate the support of its grandmother is held to be an act of filial devotion, could not possibly be free from the guilt of destroying the lives of unwelcome female infants.

Reference has already been made to the theory of Chinese mourning for parents, which is supposed to consume three full years, but which in practice is mercifully shortened to twenty-seven months. In the seventeenth book of the Confucian Analects, we read of one of the disciples of the master, who argued stoutly against three years as a period for mourning, maintaining that one year was enough. To this the master conclusively replied that the superior man could not be happy during the whole three years of mourning, but that if this particular disciple thought he could be happy by shortening it a year, he might do so, but the master plainly regarded him as 'no gentleman.' The observance of this mourning takes precedence of all other duties whatsoever, and amounts to an excision of so much of the life-time of the sons, if they happen to be in government employ. There are instances in which extreme filial devotion is exhibited by the son's building a hut near the grave of the mother or father, and going there to live during the whole time of the mourning. The most common way in which this is done is to spend the night only at the grave, while during the day the ordinary occupations are followed as usual. But there are some sons who will be content with nothing less than the whole ceremonial, and accordingly exile themselves for the full period, engaging in no occupation whatever, but being absorbed by grief. The writer is acquainted with a man of this class, whose extreme devotion to his parents' grave for so long a time unsettled his mind, and made him a useless burden to his family. To the Chinese, such an act is highly commendable, irrespective of its consequences, which are not considered at all. The ceremonial duty is held to be absolute and not relative. It is not uncommon to meet with cases of persons who have sold their land to the last fraction of an acre, and even pulled down the house and disposed of the timbers, in order to provide money for a suitable funeral for one or both of the parents. That such conduct is a social wrong few Chinese can be brought to understand, and no Chinese can be brought to realise. It is accordant with Chinese instinct. It is accordant with *li*, or propriety, and therefore it was unquestionably the thing to be done.

The Abbé Huc gives from his own experience an excellent example of that ceremonial filial conduct, which to the Chinese is so dear. While the Abbé was living in the south of China, during the first year of his residence in this empire, he had occasion to send a messenger to Peking and he bethought him that perhaps a Chinese school-master in his employ, whose home was in Peking, would like to embrace the rare opportunity to send a message to

his old mother, from whom he had not heard for four years, and who did not know of her son's whereabouts. Hearing that the courier was to leave soon, the teacher called to one of his pupils, who was singing off his lesson in the next room, "Here, take this paper, and write me a letter to my mother. Lose no time, for the courier is going at once." This proceeding struck M. Huc as singular, and he inquired if the lad was acquainted with the teacher's mother, and was informed that the boy did not even know that there was such a person. "How then was he to know what to say, not having been told?" To this the school-master made the conclusive reply, "Don't he know quite well what to say? For more than a year, he has been studying literary composition, and he is acquainted with a number of elegant formulas. Do you think he does not know perfectly well how a son ought to write to a mother?" The pupil soon returned with the letter not only all written, but sealed up, the teacher merely adding the superscription with his own hand. The letter would have answered equally well for any other mother in the empire, and any other would have been equally pleased to receive it.

The amount of filial conduct on the part of Chinese children to their parents will vary in any two places. Doubtless both extremes are to be found everywhere. Parricides are not common, and such persons are usually insane, though that makes no difference in the cruel punishment which they suffer. But among the common people, groaning in deepest poverty, some harsh treatment of parents is inevitable. On the other hand, voluntary substitutions of a son for the father, in cases of capital punishment, are known to occur, and such instances speak forcibly for the sincerity and power of the instinct of filial devotion to a parent, though this parent may be a deeply dyed criminal.

To the Occidental, fresh from the somewhat too loose bonds of family life, which not infrequently prevail in lands nominally Christian, the theory of Chinese filial conduct presents some very attractive features. The respect for age which it involves is most beneficial, and might profitably be cultivated by Anglo-Saxons generally. In western countries, when a son becomes of age, he goes where he likes, and does what he chooses. He has no necessary connection with his parents nor they with him. To the Chinese such customs must appear like the behaviour of a well grown calf or colt to the cow and the mare, suitable enough for animals, but by no means conformable to *li* as applied to human beings. An attentive consideration of the matter from the Chinese stand-point will show that there is abundant room in our own social practice for improvement, and that most of us really live in glass houses, and would do well not to throw stones recklessly. Yet, on the other hand, it is idle to discuss the filial piety of the Chinese, without making most emphatic its fatal defects in several particulars. This doctrine seem to have five radical faults, two of them negative, and three of them positive. It has volumes on the duty of children toward parents, but no word on the duty of parents to children. China is not a country in which advice of this kind is superfluous. Such advice is everywhere most needed and always has been so. It was an inspired wisdom which led the Apostle Paul to combine in a few brief sentences addressed to his Colossian church the four pillars of the ideal home. "Husbands love your wives, and be not bitter against them." "Wives submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord." "Children obey your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing unto the Lord." "Fathers provoke not your children to anger, lest they be discouraged." What is there in all Confucian morality which for practical wisdom can for a moment be put into competition with these far-reaching principles? The Chinese doctrine has

nothing to say on behalf of its daughters, but everything on behalf of its sons. If the Chinese eye had not for ages been colour-blind on this subject, this gross outrage on human nature could not have failed of detection. By the accident of sex, the infant is a family divinity. By the accident of sex she is a dreaded burden, liable to be destroyed, and certain to be despised. The Chinese doctrine of filial piety puts the wife on an inferior plane. Confucius has nothing to say of the duties of wives to husbands or of husbands to wives. Christianity requires a man to leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife. Confucianism requires a man to cleave to his father and mother, and to compel his wife to do the same. If the relation between the husband and his parents conflicts with that between the husband and his wife, the latter as the lesser and inferior is the relation which must yield. The whole structure of Chinese society, which is modelled upon the patriarchal plan, has grave evils. It encourages the suppression of some of the natural instincts of the heart, that other instincts may be cultivated to an extreme degree. It results in the almost entire subordination of the younger during the whole life of those who are older. It cramps the minds of those who are subjected to its iron pressure, preventing development and healthful change.

That tenet of the Chinese doctrine which makes filial conduct consist in leaving posterity, is responsible for a long train of ills. It compels the adoption of children, whether there is or is not any adequate provision for their support. It leads to early marriages, and brings into existence millions of human beings, who by reason of the excessive pinch of poverty can barely keep soul and body together. It is the efficient cause of polygamy and concubinage, always and inevitably a curse. It is expressed and epitomised in the worship of ancestors, which is the real religion of the Chinese race. This system of ancestral worship, when rightly understood in its true significance, is one of the heaviest yokes which ever a people was compelled to bear. As pointed out by Dr. Yates, in the essay to which reference has been already made, the hundreds of millions of living Chinese, are under the most galling subjection to the countless thousands of millions of the dead. "The generation of to-day is chained to the generations of the past." Ancestral worship is the best type and guarantee of that leaden conservatism to which attention has already been directed; until that conservatism shall have received some mortal wound, how is it possible for China to adjust herself to the wholly new conditions under which she finds herself in this last quarter of the century? And while the generations of those who have passed from the stage continue to be regarded as the true divinities by the Chinese people, how is it possible that China should take a single real step forward? The true root of the Chinese practice of filial piety we believe to be a mixture of fear and self-love, two of the most powerful motives which can act on the human soul. The spirits must be worshipped on account of the power which they have for evil. From the Confucian point of view, it was a sagacious maxim of the Master, that "to respect spiritual beings, but to keep aloof from them, may be called wisdom." If the sacrifices are neglected, the spirits will be angry. If the spirits are angry, they will take revenge. It is better to worship the spirits, by way of insurance. This appears to be a condensed statement of the Chinese theory of all forms of worship of the dead. As between the living, the process of reasoning is equally simple. Every son has performed his filial duties to his father, and demands the same from his own son. That is what children are for. Upon this point the popular mind is explicit. 'Trees are raised for shade, children are reared for old age.' Neither parents nor children are under

any illusions upon this subject. 'If you have no children to foul the bed, you will have no one to burn paper at the grave.' Each generation pays the debt which is exacted of it by the generation which preceded it, and in turn requires from the generation which comes after full payment to the uttermost farthing. Thus is filial piety perpetuated from generation to generation, and from age to age.

Scholars are not agreed upon the question whether in the dim past, the Chinese once recognised the true God. If they ever did so, that knowledge has certainly been most effectually lost, like an inscription on an ancient coin, now covered with the accumulated rust of millenniums. It is a melancholy comment upon the exaggerated Chinese doctrine of filial piety, that it not only embodies no reference to a Supreme Being, but that it does not in any way lead up to a recognition of His existence. Ancestral worship, which is the most complete and the ultimate expression of this filial piety, is perfectly consistent with polytheism, with pantheism, with agnosticism, and with atheism. It makes dead men into gods, and its only gods are dead men. Its love, its gratitude and its fear, are for earthly parents only. It has no conception of a Heavenly Father, and feels no interest in such a being when He is made known. Either Christianity will never be introduced into China, or ancestral worship will be given up, for they are contradictories. In the death struggle between them, the fittest only will survive.

THE ACTION AGAINST THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK IN MANILA.

The Manila correspondent of the *Free Press* writes:—The affairs of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank are occupying the mind of the public a great deal. On Saturday (16th) Jurado and Co. claimed a sum of \$320,000 in payment of its claims against the Bank, which the Bank refused to pay. As soon as its decision was known, all the funds in the Bank were seized, so that no transaction of any kind could be carried on. This state of things went on till Tuesday, when after the Bank had deposited, by instruction from their legal advisers, a sum of \$320,000, first in the Banco Filipino which sum was afterwards withdrawn, and further deposited in the Casa de Depositos, business was resumed, and the panic created by this disturbance of the ordinary course of business, began to subside. The papers again had a rumour, the day before yesterday, that a new claim had been presented to the bank by the same Jurado and Co. for over \$800,000, this, however, was contradicted in one of yesterday's papers, which professes to know better than its neighbours, but which continues to say that Jurado and Co. have given notice that they will shortly claim from the Bank \$600,000.

It is very hard that the Bank, (which for the Law here has no personality, owing, the latter says, to the Bank not having complied with all the regulations necessary when establishing itself in Manila) should still be considered so much of a personality that money can be claimed from it, and that it should be held responsible for the same.

It is thought very regrettable by many amongst the thinking Spaniards that the Bank should not have taken stronger measures in the beginning, and now some legal men think it would be wisest for the Bank to close here and try and get the matter settled in Spain, where, at any rate, the issue would be sooner decided, and where all concerned could be cited by a Court of Law for the discussion of the whole affair. Others again think that the best solution of the difficulty would be for the Bank to make a compromise, and hand over part of the sum demanded by Jurado and Co., and

put an end to an annoying business.—But there are so many different versions told of the affair and so many different opinions concerning it that it is almost impossible to arrive at the truth of the story, or the best solution of the difficulty. It is thought extremely hard and unfair that the Bank, which was founded here on certain principles according to the advice and approval of well-known and reliable local legal advisers, should now be subjected to all the annoyance and unpleasantness from which which it is suffering, having acted throughout with the traditional honour and honesty of a respectable English enterprise.

THE DISASTER IN SAMOA.

The following are a few additional facts from Australian papers about the fearful hurricane at Samoa which destroyed three German and three American men-of-war:—

Auckland, 2nd April.

Two large iron barques and eleven coasting vessels were also wrecked. The total loss of life is at present estimated at 150. When the sudden fall in the barometer was noticed, the whole of the warships in the harbour got up steam for the purpose of endeavouring to run out to sea, but they were all driven ashore and wrecked, with the exception of the British cruiser *Calliope*, which succeeded in steaming out to sea in the very teeth of the storm. On Saturday morning the gale increased to a terrible extent, and daylight revealed an awful scene of desolation. The damage done to shipping, and on land was immense. Tamasese and Mataafa, the chiefs, sent natives to assist in saving property, and they worked splendidly in rescuing lives without respect to nationality.

London, 3rd April.

Her Majesty the Queen has telegraphed a sympathetic message to General Harrison, expressing greatest sorrow at the recent terrible disaster at Samoa.

The German press praises the action of the rebel Mataafa for the prompt assistance rendered by him in saving life and property.

Law Reports.

H.B.M.'s SUPREME COURT.

Shanghai, 24th April, 1889.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq., Acting Chief Justice.

POOTUNG DOCK CO. v. JAMES SIMPSON. Mr. H. S. WILKINSON and Mr. C. DOWDALL for the plaintiffs.

Mr. R. E. WAINWRIGHT for the defendants.

Mr. WILKINSON stated that the witness referred to at the last hearing was still unable to attend, and he (counsel) did not feel justified in asking for another adjournment, and his case was now closed.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT having opened his case called

Mr. G. GALLES, who deposed as follows—I am a member of S. C. Farnham & Co. I have been in China since 1878. I became partner in the firm in January, 1885. My department is the office, or commercial portion of the business. Between the time of my arrival in China and becoming a partner I was employed in the firm. In 1884 I was a shareholder in the Pootung Dock Co. I attended the meeting of the 6th March, 1884. Mr. Simpson was present and I heard him read a speech of which the exhibit in Court is a copy. A pretty lengthy discussion followed, and Mr. Simpson gradually increased his offer from Tls. 9,000 a year rent until it reached Tls. 10,000 and that they should spend Tls. 20,000 extending over a period of 3 years. That is to say he conceded, after the discussion regarding the responsibility of the Company should the dock burst, to pay Tls. 500 more a year

towards a reserve fund; his proposal was received with acclamation and the resolution was carried, adopting the proposal as amended. It was proposed by Mr. Simpson and seconded by Mr. Morris. At the time there was one building used as a godown, office and dwelling house at the dock; there was besides a new godown which was built in 1883. There was a blacksmith's shop which had been newly roofed and thoroughly repaired, also an old shed and an old pump house. The first building which I have described was the one afterwards burnt. [Copy of Insurance policy produced and put in.] At the time of the meeting, March '84, Farnham & Co. held a lease of the Old Dock. There was an agreement entered into by Messrs. Farnham & Co. with the proprietors of the Old Dock for the repair of the dock according to the specification attached. Our books show that it was carried out.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT was very anxious to put in the agreement, but Mr. Wilkinson objected, and his objection was upheld by his Lordship.

Witness—Our rent for the Pootung Dock, and the yearly quota of the Tls. 20,000 for repairs with the interest thereon comes to nearly Tls. 14,000. We pay Tls. 10,000 for the Old Dock and have to spend Tls. 10,000 in ten years which comes altogether to about Tls. 11,000 a year. The Old Dock is the most useful dock and the most convenient for docking ships. We also own Collyer's Dock further down on the other side of the river. It is very nearly as large as the Pootung Dock. We paid Tls. 50,000 for this dock, which with interest makes the yearly rental about Tls. 3,500. In the end of December, 1887, I noticed that the inside of the lower wharf (Pootung Dock) had gone down landwards about three inches. I would not have noticed it but for Mr. Twentyman telling me. That would be due to the sinking of the bunding on which the wharf rests. That was the first I saw or heard of the sinking of the bunding. When the *Poochi* was in dock about the 22nd or 23rd January, 1888, my partner, Mr. Twentyman, told me something about the bursting in of the dock, but I did not go to see it then. That was the first I heard of it. I went to see the dock a week later and saw that some planks had been taken up, and water came bubbling up like springs inside the caisson. I did not see it again till I went there with your Lordship, Mr. Wainwright and Mr. Dowdall, when I pointed out to your notice a few more springs in the opposite corner. The date of that visit was about 6th March. Mr. Simpson left our firm 31st December, 1887. Mr. Twentyman, Mr. Dick, and myself took over all the liabilities of the firm. Another partner, Mr. Webster, left at that time. We signed a formal deed for the liabilities. We had no idea that there were any serious liabilities outstanding. The average annual expenditure for keeping the Old Dock and Collyer's Dock in repair is about Tls. 1,000 each. The document (produced) represents the repairs to the Old Dock for three years amounting to Tls. 3,124. The amounts expended on Collyer's Dock were, 1886, Tls. 1,474.79 which included part of the new wharf; 1887, Tls. 1,285.03, also including part of new bunding; 1888, Tls. 1,635.54 including about 60 feet of new bunding to replace bunding which had slipped out into the river.

Cross-examined by Mr. WILKINSON—I think Collyer's Dock was bought by us in 1883 when I was at home. I do not know in what condition it was. I can fix from our books what the expenditure upon it was in 1883-84-85. I do not know what the sinking of the bunding at the Pootung Dock was due to. I am not a practical man. No intimation of that was given to the Dock Company. I did not communicate the bursting in of the Dock Company to them on the 22nd January. We did not abstain from doing that in consequence of a consultation with Mr. Simpson, I do not

remember having a consultation upon the subject with Mr. Simpson. But I did have a conversation with Mr. Simpson upon the subject and he said we must first ascertain what the matter was. It was about the 25th, or three days later, we ascertained what the matter was from a survey made by Captain Roberts whom we sent for the purpose. About November Mr. Simpson mentioned to me that the dock was leaking under the sill and I asked him if it was anything serious and he said, "No, I think we can fix it all right." I never heard anything more about it, and so thought it was fixed. I first wrote to the Company (plaintiffs) on the 26th January. On the 24th we received a letter from them asking what was the condition of the dock. Before writing the letter on the 26th I had been talking to Mr. Simpson who told me what to write, (Letter produced). That is the letter. It is my idea of what would meet circumstances. Mr. Simpson gave me the ideas and I expressed them.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT objected to the letter being considered as Mr. Simpson's letter until it was proved.

Witness identified Captain Roberts' report made in January 1888. There was no talk of a bursting in of the dock in Captain Roberts' report. I do not remember that at the meeting of the 6th March, 1884, the statements in Mr. Francis's circular were discussed, there was a general discussion about putting some money aside in case the dock burst. I was not a partner at the time of this meeting. Mr. Simpson did not talk to me about his offer of Tls. 500 towards the Reserve Fund, I was simply a shareholder in the Company and an employé of the firm. The Tls. 10,500 were to be paid as rent. Mr. Hogg made some remarks about the way in which the shares had been distributed, and it was after this that Mr. Simpson increased his offer by Tls. 500.

Re-examined by Mr. WAINWRIGHT—Before I wrote the letter of the 26th Jan., Mr. Simpson told me that the dock had been leaking under the sill for some months. I cannot swear that he told me it had been leaking badly. I do not recollect whether he told me that the river had been cutting away the wharf for some time.

Mr. JAMES ROBERT TWENTYMAN, sworn and examined by Mr. Wainwright, said—I am a partner in Messrs. Farnham & Co., and a Marine Engineer by profession. I became a partner on 1st January, 1888, and had been in charge of the whole of the outdoor business from August 1887. As to my previous experience I had been for some years Marine Superintendent for Messrs. Milburn & Co.'s coast line of steamers and had experience of docks. Previously I had been outdoor manager for marine repairs for two Tyne firms, and during that time, I was constantly about the wet and dry docks on the Tyne and Wear. I hold a first class Board of Trade certificate as marine engineer. I served the legal apprenticeship to the business. I have built a large godown at the Old Dock and constructed three wharves in Shanghai for the China Merchants' and Eastern Wharf and Godown Companies. I have superintended the repairs going on now at the Pootung Dock. When I took charge of the Pootung Dock in August, 1887, it was in fairly good repair. We had no trouble with any part of it. In August 1887 I did not notice anything wrong with the bunding of either the Upper or the Lower wharf. Some time after that we had some leakage under the caisson sill. I observed nothing that made me uneasy as to the stability of the dock up to that time, or anything that suggested it would get into bad condition. It was in the latter part of December, same year, that I first observed anything wrong with the bunding of the wharves. It had gone down a few inches, about 2½ to 3 inches, I should say. We landed at the lower part and in walking across I noticed that the bunding was sinking, and I concluded that

the workmen had drawn one of the propellers, of which there were four, lying on the solid earth, across it. I thought that the heavy propeller had been carried from the interior of the bund to the wharf and had driven the piles down. I did not regard it as of any importance. We saw nothing more of any signs of collapse till the latter part of January when the lower wharf and bunding had gone down very rapidly from three to four feet. They went down that distance between the 22nd and 26th Jan. We could not form any conclusion as to the cause of it. There was a gully formed by the pier tipping up and the wharf itself tapering upwards. The dockhead had slipped down from 12 to 15 feet and from about a distance of twenty feet it was nearly level. The photograph (produced) represents the appearance of the Dock in January pretty clearly. Later on it went further down. (Shown another photograph.)—That represents how it appeared in August, six months later. It shows further extension and fissures at the back. (Two further photographs showing progressive stages of the state of the dock were then put in and proved as correct by the witness.) I could not do anything when I noticed the subsidence in January; we were powerless to arrest further mischief except by reconstruction. The whole of the lower bunding to the extent of over a hundred feet, began to go in February. It dropped suddenly and then continued to go at about an inch a day. In moved four feet in two days. Before we commenced work in October the dropping had extended along the whole of the wharf as far as the drain. Before that we took soundings to see if we could do anything, and we concluded that the whole dock would go. We dug out behind the bunding about the 24th or 25th Jan. to relieve it of the weight. By October the subsidence had extended inwards about 80 feet. The initial cause was the scouring of the river and the piles being originally only eight feet into the mud, were too short and moving out caused the fissures. We dug out about 20 feet from the upper head and then desisted seeing that it was no use. There was nothing which we could do to arrest the slipping in of the bund when we first observed it. The upper bunding has always been in good order. It consists of two bundings, one of which we put in as part of the Tls. 20,000 expenditure, and the original outer bunding. The new bunding was pretty close to the other, from two to three feet, the space between was filled with bricks. It tapered away to nothing. The condition of the upper bunding was simply first class up to October. The old outer bunding was done, the piles were good but the sheeting was a little gone. The outer piles had slipped somewhat; in my opinion it still continued a serviceable bund till October. The piles of the outer bund were good except that they were too short. Both the outer and inner bundings have been renewed for a hundred feet. When Mr. Morrison made the plans for the repairs he did not know that there was an old bund there too, and when he found it out he gave us the order to pull it up,—why I do not know. I should not have pulled it up. There is now a single bund of 100 feet and about 25 feet of the double bund. The timber of all the piles which we drew from the lower bund was first class; we cannot replace them with such good wood now. The tie-rods were not bad, some were bent, some broken, I can't say how many. The bottom of the piles slipped out and that caused them to slip down, and bent the tie-rods. It was the leverage on the piles. There was no earth on the tie-rods. If an eminent engineer said so he would be wrong. It could not be so. Earth could not stop on the tie-rods. The water did not wash in through the sheeting of the bund till the whole thing collapsed. We docked the *Tungsha* lightship from the 4th to the 13th January, and the dock

was then very dry. I have never seen it in better condition. On the 18th January we docked the *Poochi* which remained in till the 23rd. During the time she was in dock—on the 22nd Jan. I think—the water came up through the gutters of the dock. To find out the cause I ordered some planks to be taken up inside the sill and we found that the cement was fractured and the water was bubbling up several inches. The dock was engaged for two more sailing ships, but we were afraid to touch it until we got rid of them and had the *Poochi* out. The two vessels were in from the 24th to the 29th January. We had only trifling work to do on them. If we had their bottoms to open out, we could not have taken them in. We had to keep these vessels moored the whole time they were in although the pumps were going all the time. At times the water gained on us and washed the copper nails and refuse away from the bottom. While the vessels were in dock, the dock grew worse and it continued to get worse every day. We only pumped the dock out after this for surveys, and these were the last ships we docked there, the *Hilda* and *Sin Kolga*. We had a consultation with Mr. Simpson and came to the conclusion that it would be dangerous to do anything without a cofferdam. We subsequently got a survey made by Captain Roberts. In reference to Mr. Galles' statement in the letter that the dock was leaking badly under the caisson, my opinion is that in November the water was coming in at the sill. We had to shore the sill down on the fender, having first tried to put down a new sill on top of the old one and fasten it down with spikes, but it would not hold. The shoring of the sill to the fender kept the dock dry, and enabled us to caulk between the sill and the platform. While the *Tungsha* was in dock it was dry. It was not correct to say that the dock had been leaking badly for months. I don't think Mr. Galles saw the dock much unless he went to take stock. The "cutting away of the wharf" mentioned in Mr. Galles' letter meant the cutting away of the mud. The whole thing occurred between the 24th to 29th January while the two sailing vessels were in dock. We had during that time to keep pumping night and day. We had only to pump the last day while the *Poochi* was in. We did our best to keep the dock in good working order. Besides the leaks under the floor there was leakage between the chase piles and the bulkhead, one at each side. These fresh leaks only appeared when the sailing ships were in dock. Every time we pumped the dock fresh leaks appeared. Another more serious one appeared at the side of the body of the dock. The water had entered at the front of each dock head under the foot of the piles and sheeting. It worked along behind the sides of the entrance and at an angle across the block of cement, coming up at the corner. If the bulkhead had been flush with the chase as it is in the new structure the water could not have got in.

The Court then adjourned till to-morrow.

25th April.

Mr. TWENTYMAN was further examined by Mr. Wainwright and said—I find that the cost of keeping Collyer's Dock in repair from August to December 1883 was Tls. 1,154.52; in 1884, Tls. 796.14; and in 1885, Tls. 506.88. On removing the chase on the upper side of the entrance about November 5th, 1888, for the new chase, we found a channel behind about 4 inches wide and 18 inches deep. We discovered the perforation though the concrete about the same time. We pumped the dock out occasionally for the purpose of surveying, until the cofferdam was erected in July; at other times the dock was full of water. Everytime we pumped it dry we found additional leaks coming under the platform inside the sill.

There were also leaks between the chase piles and the sheeting. It was not until November, when we removed the chase piles, that I saw how the water had got through the chases. The bulk-head did not come up to the piles, between which there was a vertical channel about four inches wide and about 18 inches deep, beginning under the platform and ending about nine inches above it. That was above the sill. The leaks were entirely due to the scouring out or the depth of the river outside, and from imperfect construction, the chase piles not having been driven into the mud at first, and the bulkhead being as much as five feet outside the chase, instead of being through the chase piles. The cement at the foot of the chase piles was in some parts pretty middling and some pretty bad. Under the platform inside the sill the cement was very similar—bad. I produce some fair samples of the cement taken from under the chase piles (which witness broke easily with his fingers). There was some of the cement decidedly worse and some better. Without a cofferdam it could not be seen that the chase piles did not go through the platform and into the mud. It was impossible to find out the position of the bulkhead by digging down without running the risk of flooding the dock and maybe losing my life. I know of no way in which I could have stopped the leaks under the floor without a cofferdam, nor could we have stopped the leaks behind the chase piles by digging down without considerable risk. The scouring of the river is caused by the narrowing of the channel. There is a great scour at present and I think it is every day getting worse. It is caused by the projection of the Arsenal Point above the dock which has a tendency to narrow the current and throw it against the dock. I should say that this scour has been going on since the latter part of 1887, for if it had been going on longer it would have shown itself in the collapse of the dock long before. The scour is with both ebb and flood, I have tried the experiment myself by casting adrift in a launch about two hundred yards below the dock and it has drifted me the whole way through the bight to the upper wharf of the dock. On one occasion I fouled the upper end of the groin. This proves that the current sweeps along parallel with the shore and that it is gradually cutting away the bank in front of the dock. It is not correct to say that the flood tide sets across from the French Police Station and strikes the dock. There is not sufficient depth of water there. It does set across from mid-stream opposite the French Police Station, and sweeps along the Pootung shore and strikes it considerably below the dock. The first soundings I took at the upper wharf of the dock was when I was putting in some very heavy piles about September 1887. I found 21 feet of water at the outer edge of the wharf at high tide. I sounded a little further out at that time and got 25 feet of water. I sounded lower down in the latter part of January 1888, and found 30 feet of water 5 feet outside the launch which would be about 13 feet outside the wharf. Some time later I think from six weeks to two months, I got 5 feet deeper at the same place, the state of the tide being the same. We have sounded from time to time since, but as we have been filling up with tons of mud, we cannot rely upon the soundings. The river is decidedly deepening all the time. The original piles were 8 feet into the mud; as against 25 of the new piles. The new piles have gone out nearly four feet for the whole length of the new lower bunding, and they will go out further still. The upper bund is all right yet. It is the part of the new lower bund we constructed first that has gone out most, the amount of the slipping being from 4 feet at the lower to nothing at the upper end. The piles have also gone down 22 inches further into the mud for about three-fourths

the length. The sinking is greatest at the lower and nothing at the upper end. These piles have recently been driven. I ascribe this sinking and slipping to the scour and to the bund being constructed too far out. The new bunding is constructed about 18 inches outside the old one. Mr. Morrison has, as a prevention of the further slipping of the new bunding, had new piles driven at intervals of 8 feet, fifty feet into the mud and fastened by bolting to the nearest of the other piles and walings. These long piles are from 68 to 70 feet in length and from 16 to 18 inches square. They are tied back by two-inch tie rods 80 feet back to piles driven 25 feet into the mud the tops being 10 feet below the surface, and with walings in front to prevent them slipping. Even since this has been done, the new bunding has gone down a little till it is stopped by the bolts to the longer piles, and it cannot go further till the bolts break. The bolt hole is already a little larger than the bolt with the straining, and I believe when we fill it in behind, the bunding will go down still further. It is only partially filled in as yet, when it is entirely filled in the tendency will be to increase the outward pressure. In the deepest part the new piles are now nine feet below the bed of the river. The deepest part of the river is not in the middle but about 35 feet out from the dock. We must fill it in behind to enable us to use the dock, and we have been asked to fill it in with ashes as lightly as we can. The new long piles extend the whole length of the main bunding. It is at the lower end that a slight giving has taken place; since the new piles there has been no slipping, only a sinking. In the old bunding the tie rods were connected with the top of the mooring piles which were only 8 feet long and only driven below ground level. The mooring piles were further tied back to a cross beam secured to another mooring pile. I never saw anything like it before. There was thus nothing to prevent it slipping at the bottom. I did not know how it was fastened till the ground was opened up. The heads of the new tie or mooring piles are driven down 10 feet below ground level, and are twenty-five feet long. The lower tie rods are horizontal and five feet below the top of the mooring piles. The outer end of these rods was as low as we could get it at low water. I did not consider that there was any advantage in double sheet piling for the bunding and I should have used single myself, as the double has a tendency to force out the piling by acting as a wedge on the first sheeting driven. From what I saw I knew that fresh piles had been driven behind the old ones in the bund, from time to time and some of the old piles had been "scarfed" or spliced with new piles at the top. When I took charge in August '87 it was clear that these things had been done, and the bund was in good repair, as the photographs show. The wharves were in superior condition to the Associated Wharves at that time and they are under charge of Mr. Morrison. We have used all the wood of the old construction which was long enough for the new. Many of the old bund piles have been used as the new mooring piles. There are many of the old bund piles which we have not used yet. We will use the timber of the wharf when we come to it. There were no piles rotten; where there had been decay the piles had been cut and "scarfed." There were one or two of the bund piles broken, but that had nothing to do with the slipping out. Some of the piles driven by Messrs. Farnham & Co. in the wharf were 45 to 50 feet. The entrance of the dock was in good repair when I took charge. It is there yet. The entrance could not have been repaired without a cofferdam. The platform was in good condition, but after we got the caisson up we found that the sill had risen four inches above its original level in the middle, and

the platform in the centre had gone down four inches below its proper level. That was in the centre line of the caisson, and there was thus 8 inches clear space in the centre, sloping away gradually to either end. This could not have been remedied without a cofferdam. The bulkhead was sprung in $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in the centre, and the piles beneath the platform sloped in to the same extent and we had to square them off to get a bearing surface. The chase piles were in good condition, the wood being in good order and not decayed. All this was after we got in the cofferdam. The chase piles were deflected two inches inwards from the top, which gave the caisson a tendency to force down the floor in the centre which must have caused a leak between the sill and the platform. I think this had something to do with the leakage of the dock. We could not remedy this without reconstruction. This occurred in my opinion through the chase piles not being driven into the mud. The chase was not in a good position being too far in, which is a weakness. The new chase piles are 45 feet long, and go 25 feet into the mud. [A model of the upper side of the dock was put in and declared correct by the witness]. The number of piles at the chase, 13, is correct; they are 14 by 14 inches and 16 by 16 inches. I should call what has happened a bursting in, in the strictest sense of the term. It arose from the structure not being able to stand the pressure from the outside which produced a fracture in the cement. The leaks were the result of the original imperfect construction combined with the cutting away action of the river. [Examined with reference to Mr. Morrison's evidence]. There is no weakness at the ends of the cofferdam which we have put in, none has manifested itself. There would have been no danger in removing mud from the sides of the entrance after the cofferdam was in so as to ascertain what was the construction of the entrance. We have actually done it—since Mr. Morrison gave his evidence. It was necessary to do so to get the tie rods in at low water mark. There would have been no saving in expense if the work was taken in hand when the damage was originally reported in March '88. It would have been a matter of reconstruction in any case. It is not correct to say that all the timbers in the dock are rotten. The beams in the dock were more or less rotten, but nothing depends on them. The upper portions of them were cut away in many cases. There are 75 beams around the dock, and three or four terraces have cut away. The stringers of the terraces are secured to the beams. The small piles of the altars are not decayed or rotten; they are slightly worn on the top, but are perfectly sound. It would take £1,900 to put the inside of the dock into good repair—to reconstruct it. By using the present beams it would cost about £1,500 to £1,600. I would not consider it necessary if the dock were mine to renew the beams. I might ask a tenant stupid enough to do so and had I been landlord (laughter). I do not agree with the statement of Mr. Morrison that "the tenants must have been aware of its condition." What happened was sudden and I could not have foretold it. I was surprised when it did occur; generally speaking the dock is not much knocked about by ordinary use.

HIS LORDSHIP—You were in charge of the dock from 1st August 1887?

Witness—Yes, my Lord.

From that time till you became a partner did you examine the dock particularly?

Yes, my Lord. I was constantly about the dock, constantly looking after the ships in dock and getting in new boilers, more particularly while the *Amoy* and the *Ningpo* were in dock, I was about the dock two or three times a day.

Did you pay any particular attention to its condition? Yes.

And you noticed nothing that would lead you to expect what has since occurred?

Nothing, my Lord.

Witness examined by Mr. WAINWRIGHT—I do not consider the new small groins which Mr. Morrison calls for in his specifications are any advantage. They are too small and create a scour at the end. I know the bunding at the China Merchants' Lower Wharf. It has double sheet piling like that at the Pootung.

Mr. WILKINSON submitted that whether the sheeting at the China Merchants' Wharf was single or double it had nothing to do with the case, and the question should not be asked.

HIS LORDSHIP—That may be, but there are numbers of questions asked which are not evidence.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT said he only put the question as showing the accuracy of Mr. Morrison's memory.

Witness repeated that the sheeting was double at the China Merchants' Lower Wharf, and continuing said, I was always under the impression that the flood tide was the strongest. (Examined as to Mr. Kingsmill's evidence). By the end of November both chases had been removed and the sheeting cut down. I do not think that Mr. Kingsmill from what he saw in November last could form an idea as to the state of the dock in the previous January, for everything was then torn up asunder about the dock. Mr. Kingsmill could not form any opinion that an accident had not happened. I look upon it as a very bad accident. We have used all the old tie rods except three with Mr. Morrison's knowledge and according to the specifications. Some of the old rods were broken and we welded them together again. The sheeting in front of the piles was more or less fractured, but it was not rotten. It is not true that the thin sheeting behind was rotten. There is no foundation for his statement that much of the land inside had subsided owing to the water washing in and out. The water did not wash in and out till after the collapse of the structure. The lower dock head had slipped out. The flood tide does not strike the dock at any angle; it flows past it both ways. We have no scour at the Old Dock or at Collyer's. I don't think that putting in stones in front of the bund when it began to go out, would have stopped it, though it might, if done when the dock was first constructed. In any case it would take several hundred tons of stones. The two thrust piles were not decayed and they had no function of thrusting to perform; their only use being to protect the altars from the inwash of water. There is no foundation for saying that the piles of the one chase were a good deal decayed and out of shape. They were not at all decayed or out of shape. It is absurdly high to say that it would take £4,000 for repairs each year to keep the dock up. It is simply absurd to say that fifteen or sixteen hundred tons of this expenditure would be referable to the inside. If £1,500 or £1,600 were spent upon the inside it would not require anything more for a long time. It is not correct to say that all the timbers at the sides of the entrance between high and low water mark were decayed. They are still there with from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of the sheeting—with Mr. Morrison's sanction. The struts were sound both before and behind the caisson. The sheeting of the side was taken away to enable us to form an earth connection. I cannot form any idea of what Mr. Kingsmill meant by saying that the chase piles were decayed; they were not. There was no decay whatever on the struts inside. It is not true that there were rotten and decayed timbers everywhere. It would not have been possible to make a good job of the dock by a temporary cofferdam, as Mr. Kingsmill stated, because you could not have got the cofferdam flush against the sides on account of the struts. It would be a very dangerous proceeding to attempt

to ascertain the state of the floor of the dock outside the caisson by boring as Mr. Marshall said. Two-thirds of the floor, which Mr. Marshall saw in December, and said one-third of it was out of repair, still remains, and what we took away was not in bad repair. There were no holes in the floor, they were underneath in the cement. The water never came through the wood-work of the floor: it forced its way into the channel. In December some planks in the floor had been taken up, but the bulk of the wood was in its place. There is a small leak in the dock now which appears to come from under both piers and probably through the bulkhead passes under the floor. We do not know exactly what it arises from. As far as we have gone we have used the old material where it is not decayed.

The further examination of the witness was postponed till next morning and the Court adjourned.

26th April.

The evidence given by Mr. Geo. Lewis on the 25th May, 1888, when he was about to leave Shanghai, was read by Mr. Wainwright as follows:—In 1884 I was a shareholder in the Pootung Dock Co. I received a notice similar to the one shown me (1) calling an extraordinary general meeting of shareholders. I received a circular similar to this (2) before the meeting. My views before attending the meeting agreed with those in 2. I attended the meeting, (shown minute book, with entry of the proceedings at the meeting. Copy to be furnished later and put in.) That hardly conveys a correct report of what Mr. Simpson said. He laid particular stress upon the breaking in of the Dock. That was one of the points he brought forward. He appeared to think that they (Farnham & Co.) couldn't take the responsibility of a lease on the old terms. Any new lease he wanted made on the terms of the one under which they held the Old Dock. Farnham & Co. wanted the rent reduced. Eventually it was agreed that Farnham & Co. should spend £20,000 on the repairs of the property, and have a new lease granted to them on the terms of that of the Old Dock. The rent was to be £10,500 of which £1,500 was to go to form a reserve fund for repairs that might be necessitated by the bursting of the dock from any natural cause. By "bursting" I understood if the water got in under the sill of the dock, or the dock was partly washed away, or the gates burst in.

I agreed to this. As a shareholder I considered that we were liable if an accident of that kind occurred to the dock. If the river undermined the bunding, that was the shareholders' affair. I didn't go to the meeting with the intention of supporting Farnham & Co.

Cross-examined—In the 8th line from the bottom of 2, had the word "unforeseen" come before "cause," it wouldn't have represented any more fairly the view taken by the meeting of the matter. It was not the understanding that the shareholders came to, that they were to do all the ordinary repairs. The clause you read from 2, beginning with "under which" and ending at "Shanghai Dock Company," does not exactly represent the agreement come to at the meeting: Farnham & Co. were to keep the Dock in ordinary repairs, otherwise it does represent the conclusion come to. If the sides of the Dock fell in, the shareholders, I understand, were to repair. If the bunding outside the Dock were allowed to get out of repair, and the Dock in consequence got damaged, Farnham & Co. would be bound to do the repair if they allowed the bunding to go to rack and ruin. If the ordinary wash of the river damaged the bunding, Farnham & Co. were to repair. Farnham & Co. were to do all repairs not necessitated by unforeseen cause.

Re-examined—If the damage to the bunding resulted from the piles being too short and the bunding so slipping into the river, the shareholders would have to make good the damage. That would be an unforeseen cause. The water forcing its way under the sill of the dock would be another. The shareholders at the meeting actually agreed to take the very responsibility that Mr. Francis in his circular urged them not to take.

April 26th.

The examination of Mr. TWENTYMAN by Mr. WAINWRIGHT was continued this morning.

The witness said—The exhibit produced is a correct model of the new bunding north and south. With regard to the new work we had no voice in the matter. We offered advice about the reconstruction, but it was not accepted. I consider what is now being done to the dock is reconstruction. I consider Mr. Morrison could have done the work, even from a landlord's point of view, at considerably less expense. I have made an estimate of what work I consider superfluous. (The witness gave the items in detail of the estimate referred to, the total of which was Tls. 6,097.) I have also made an estimate of what it would have cost for necessary repairs, as distinguished from what was for extra strength. We could have done the work for Tls. 12,817 as against Mr. Morrison's Tls. 32,275.—The witness read his estimate in detail and continuing said—That estimate contemplates putting in new chases just clear of the struts. The advantage of this would be that we should have done the work quicker and better, and it would have been an entire gain of strength. In this estimate I put the piles in the bund at 10 inches square, instead of 13 inches, and which I consider amply sufficient. Looking at the repairs from a tenant's point of view, they could have been done 20 per cent. cheaper than by the contract; for we had to pay Captain Roberts 5 per cent., and we would also have put in the materials at cost price, and used the old materials to a great extent. We would have tried to dispense with Captain Roberts' services, and have done the work ourselves.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT remarked that his clients had only employed Captain Roberts to fight Mr. Morrison in the matter.

Examination continued—I offered the company to do the work at cost price at the meeting of the shareholders on 16th February, 1888, but the offer was refused. The dock was in fairly good repair immediately before the bursting. If we had engaged a contractor to rebuild the house that was burnt down it would have cost 20 per cent. more than it did.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT questioned the witness as to a rumour which he had heard to the effect that the defendants took the Pootung Dock to keep it from falling into other hands and being run as an opposition to them.

The witness said—We dock most vessels at the Old Dock, but have frequently used the Pootung Dock.

Cross-examined by Mr. WILKINSON—It is an advantage to us to keep other people from having the Pootung Dock. We preferred to have our own photographs of the dock and therefore refused to join with the other side in having them taken. We thought they would be useful or we should not have had them done. The slight depression which I observed in the latter part of November, 1887, was from 25 to 40 feet down the river from near the corner of the dock head. The propellers were laid almost immediately opposite this point and I thought the depression was caused by dragging one of them across. I saw no other depression till January 22nd, when the wharf and the bunding went down from 3 to 4 feet, and afterwards the place where I had noticed the first depression went down square. The first 25 feet did not go down at one time, but had been sinking gradually. I think that when in my examination-in-chief I said it went down an inch a day, it was slightly exaggerated. I think the river will some day scour the dock and bight away. I said in my examination-in-chief that the bund which went down square would have to be reconstructed. We dug out the earth behind in January in order to lessen the strain. I said the upper bunding was in first-class order up to October. It is quite possible that plans and specifications were received by us from Captain Roberts, with the letter produced, for making a new bund on both sides of the dock; but as a matter of fact I did not know myself of the existence of the new bunding on the other side of the dock. I cannot say whether I wrote to the Dock Company saying that the new upper bunding was unnecessary. I believe the plan produced is the one Captain Roberts sent. It shows the bund on both sides. I received a letter on the 22nd August, 1888, from Captain Roberts in answer to Mr. Morrison's specifications and saying he thought it was unwise not to extend it further than the south entrance. I do not remember any letter being sent to the Company saying that the upper bunding ought not to be made. I discovered that this was not required when we began to dig out. We dug both bunds away and got the new one in. When

we found this bund was not required we did not think it right that we as contractors should protest against it being put in; and as tenants we did not send any intimation to the company, because we had previously been snubbed when we tendered them advice. We were then acting under instructions of their surveyor. We advised the company several times on different matters with a view to reducing the expense. The piles of the bunding put in according to the contract are too short. In his report Captain Roberts estimates the piles at 10 inches square, but I put them in my examination-in-chief at 12 inches. I was always under the impression that they would be sufficient though I did not communicate this to the company. When the sill was found loose in November, we shored it down to the fender,—we spiked another sill on the top of it. It had all the time been more or less repaired, pieces were spiked on the top, we could not do anything more. It had been repaired before my time, by pieces being spiked on the top. This had been done right round, so that the sill was thicker than it was originally. I was not able to form any opinion as to when that was done. The wood was quite good. It might have been done five or six years before for all I could tell. I am not able to say it must have been done six months before, I cannot pin myself down to any exact time. It was pretty clear that it had not been done the day before. It had been done before August when I joined the dock. When we repaired the sill it occurs to me that we took away part of the sill which had been spiked on, to put on a new piece. We took it off in order to get a caulking seam. We used the ordinary spikes,—round bolts,—for spiking it down; they went away through the flooring and were intended to get a hold in something else below if anything had been there. We could not tell that there was nothing under the sill. Without the shoring and the caulking the water would have come in under the sill. We could have caulked it without the sill, but we could not caulk it effectually without the shoring. We have caulked the new sill which is intended to be permanent. The sill was not in good order after November; we were able to make it tight. It was not in the condition in which I would have liked to have it, but we could not alter it. It was in sufficient repair to answer the purpose. If I had been making a report on the dock I might have said that the sill was in middling repair. I would not have said that it was in good or bad repair.

(We will continue our report in Monday's issue.)

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, 26th April, 1889.

PIECE GOODS.—It is very difficult to define the exact position of the market, the experiences of different Importers has been so varied this week. Looking at the auctions the market seems almost stagnant, and, in some quarters, the same is said of the private enquiry, while others have apparently had a fair demand to meet—true, it has been confined to certain classes of goods as before, but, nevertheless, the quantity and prices are not altogether unsatisfactory. Best 8-4-lbs. *Shirtings* continue to hold the premier position in English Goods, being still taken at high prices, the demand coming from Tientsin. That market is presumably rather more active, judging by the attention that has been paid to *American Drills* and *Sheetings*, more of which have been taken than for some time past, but holders have had to sacrifice prices somewhat in order to do the business. From Newchwang, too, the news is a little more encouraging, but much cannot be expected from that quarter until the season is further advanced. The Szechuen markets are perfectly lifeless, and Woollens suffer in consequence, there being no enquiry whatever privately, and those forced off at auction show a serious decline; however, with the opening of the Tea and Silk markets there will probably be a revival of trade in that direction.

There is no abatement in the strength of the Manchester market, on the contrary prices appear to be still rising.

Grey Shirtings.—8-4-lbs.—Some 35,000 pieces have been taken this week, consisting almost entirely of the best makes, as follows:—*Green Dragon* and *Bell* £1.57, *Blue Dog A*, *Soldier* and *Red Six Women* £1.63, *Red Wheatear* £1.72, *Red Joss* £1.73, *Green and Gold Globes* £1.74, *Green Dragon* and 5 *Old Men* £1.75, *Blue Dragon and Spar* £1.75/76, *Blue Joss* £1.77, *Blue Dragon* and 5 *Old Men* £1.95, and *Blue Dragon No. 1* £1.96. These rates, although the same as before, show a very strong market for the higher grades; there is no enquiry for the commoner kinds, the auctions more than supplying the demand, prices being generally lower.

6-lbs. and 7-lbs.—The market is decidedly easier for the lighter weight, prices being fully 2 candarins down at auction, 5-lbs. *Green Anchor* selling privately at £0.92. The 7-lbs. makes are steady at public sale, but privately the demand is very slack.

9-12 lbs. to 11-lbs.—A quiet business is passing at steady prices, some 10,000 pieces having changed hands as follows:—9-12-lbs. *John Bull FFF* £2.03 and *Red Horse Head A* £2.13; 10-lbs. *Red Woodman* £2.02, *Red Butterfly* £2.07/07½, *Red Dragon* £2.12, *Lee Tai Horse Head* £2.16; 1½-lbs. *Silver Plute* £2.24/25; 11-lbs. *Blue Butterfly* £2.37, and 11½ lbs. *Red Star* £2.52. At the auctions, however, these makes have cut but a sorry figure, the decline in some instances being as much as 5 candarins.

12-lbs.—Rather more has been done this week at fairly steady prices, sales amounting to about 8/9,000 pieces, at £2.40 for *Beggar*, £2.46 for *Two Men*, £2.48 for *Large Mandarin*, £2.58 for *Soldier DDD*, £2.62 for *CCC*, and £2.62½ for *Beaver*.

White Shirtings.—The market remains very quiet, not to say dull, there being no enquiry whatever for the ordinary makes. A sale of *Blue Dragon* 64-reeds is mentioned at £1.82 and some fine quality at £2.35 for *Fancy Stork* and *Gold Double Stag*. The best makes are firm and business has been done in special cloths. Auction rates are weak and declining.

T-Cloths.—7-lb.—There is a good enquiry still for favorite Mexican makes at steady prices, and a moderate amount of business has been done, *Man and Elephant* £1.17, *Blue Rhinoceros* £1.18, *Blue 3 Fish and Crown* £1.22, *Blue Dragon and Flag* £1.25½ and *Spur* £1.37½. Auction prices are a little irregular but steady on the whole.

8-lb.—These have further declined at auction and are very quiet privately.

Bombay.—Nothing doing.

Drills.—*English.*—A few more *Dragon XX* at £2.22½ and *Elephant and Snake* at £2.35 is all that is reported.

American.—Sales have been made this week of fully 25,000 pieces, on a slightly lower range of prices, say—*Elephant* £2.64, *Old Man* £2.70, *Buffalo Head* £2.75 and *Centaur* £2.75½, all less 1%, *Massachusetts Flying Horse* £2.76 net, and *Pepperell Dragon* (about 15,000 pieces) £2.87½/85 less 1%, the market being fairly steady at the decline.

Jeans.—*English.*—The market is firm and stock small, the only sale published being *Blue Goose* at £1.37½.

Sheetings.—*English.*—These goods remain perfectly stagnant, the only transactions mentioned being small lots of *Cock* at £2.47½, *Blue Lion* at £2.50 and *Old Man Head* at £2.52½.

American.—The same course as *Drills* has been followed by these makes, prices showing a slight decline for the week, but more business has been done, almost entirely in the best makes however, over 40,000 pieces having changed hands, the following being the sales:—*Blue Bat* 1½ lbs. £2.27½ less 1 per cent., *Massachusetts Flying Horse* £2.70 less 1 per cent., *Appleton Old Lion* (13,500 pieces) £2.75 net to £2.75 less 1 per cent., *Old* (10,000 pieces) £2.77½ less 1 per cent., and *Indian Head* (about 8,000 pieces) £2.85 net to £2.85 less 1 per cent. The demand appears to be confined to the standard chops, the lower weights and qualities, of which the bulk of the stock consist, being neglected. The statistical position is improving, the imports being less than half to the same date last year, and deliveries 20 per cent. larger, while shipments from the States continue on a much smaller scale, chiefly through the absence of the light weight goods.

Cotton Yarn.—*English.*—The market is gradually steadying up and there is rather more enquiry, but prices are very low and unsatisfactory, especially for double Yarns. Sales reported are, 75 bales *Blue Dragon* No. 28/32s. at £76½, 50 bales *Red Wheelbarrow* at £72 and 25 bales *Man and Fish 3 fold 20s.* at £77½.

Bombay.—A small business only, at prices showing but little alteration—No. 10s. being slightly firmer, but 16s. and 20s. drooping. Sales amount to 605 bales as follows:—

No. 10s., 167 bales—*Leopold* £49½, *Jadovje* £50½, *Ripon* £51½, *Jas Greaves* £51½, *Connaught* £52 and *Alexandra (Bullock)* £52.

No. 16s., 214 bales—*Ahmedabad* £57½, *Lakmidoss* £57½, *Jubilee* £58/58½, *Franchise* £59½ and *Alexandra (Pagoda)* £59½.

No. 20s., 224 bales—*Jeevray Baloo* £57½, *Albert* £58.20, *Gordon* £58½, *James Greaves* £59½, *Connaught* £60½ and *Alexandra (Eagle)* £61.

Fancy Goods.—There is still but little of interest to report, business being small, *Prints*, and in fact all *Fancies* generally, are quiet. *Turkey Reds* are very dull and drooping, the only enquiry being for the lighter weight. A few were sold at auction at low prices, the colour not being good. *Velvets* and *Velvetines* remain neglected with stocks increasing. There is some enquiry for *Muslins* and *Luxens* and business has been done at about previous rates. *Cotton Lustings* are very dull and difficult to place, as also are all *Prints* and *Dyed Goods* of old patterns and designs. A sale has been made of 15,000 dozen *Blue and White Hankerchiefs*, special pattern, at £0.42½.

Woollens.—At auction this week *Camlets* have again suffered a very heavy fall, the decline being fully three mace per piece all round. The *Hankow* market is reported to be extremely dull, and this will probably continue until the Tea market is opened, which will release some money. Private business is at a standstill, as holders are not inclined to accept the equivalent of the auction decline. *Long Ells* have also declined but in a less degree, and there is scarcely any private enquiry—100 pieces *Sea Horse* have been taken for Japan at £4.62½ net. *Lustings* have gone down about a mace and a half at auction in common with other *Woollens*, *Spanish Stripes* being very weak also, though prices do not show any marked change, except perhaps in *Gentian* which have been selling very well, comparatively. *Russian Cloth* is in no demand.

Metals and Miscellaneous.—From Mr. Alex. Bilfield's Report:—My last report was dated 18th April. The Iron trade has since been depressed, and the demand for all kinds has been of the narrowest proportions, while Miscellaneous Goods have met with more attention during the week.

LEAD.—Sales of L.B. are reported at £4.67½, and of *Enthoven* at £4.60. Stocks remain heavy, and prices are anything but steady.

PIG IRON.—Nothing doing.

NAILROD IRON.—Is decidedly weaker—there are sellers of *Schiers* at £2.12½, but no buyers.

BAR IRON.—Continues fairly steady at quotations.

GLANVISED IRON AND IRON WIRE.—Sales of importance have not transpired; prices are well maintained.

OLD IRON.—The limited supplies give a firm support to the market, notwithstanding the slow demand. Sales are:—200 tons *London Horse-shoes*, "to arrive," at £1.35; 50 tons *Glasgow Horse-shoes*, "spot," at £1.63; 50 tons *Boiler Plate Cuttings*, "to arrive," shortly at £1.70; 468 piculs *Old Telegraph Wire* at £1.55; 80 Coils at £1.65 and 362 Coils, new, at £2.45.

TINPLATES.—Are in moderate demand at quotations.

STEEL.—Nothing doing.

SPELTER.—No business has transpired, and there seems little demand at present.

STRAITS TIN.—A steady jobbing demand continues, and values are without change.

COPPER AND YELLOW METAL SHEATHING.—Considerable sales have been made during the week, some 200 cases *Copper Sheathing* have been booked, "to arrive," at prices ranging from £18.60 down to £17.50, and at auction 35 cases *d-maged Belgian* were cleared at £13, and 16 cases *sound* at £14.65. Business in Japan has been small.

ZINC SHEATHING.—A parcel of 100 casks, No. 5 to 10, has been sold, but prices have not transpired.

EBONY WOOD.—Some 1,700 piculs have been settled at £2.50 to £2.70 per picul.

MATCHES.—There has been an active demand for both *Phosphor* and *Viennas*, 5 colors, "to arrive," and nearly 1,000 cases of the former have been booked at £13 to 13.25, and 500 cases of the latter at £17.50 to £18.50.

SOAP.—Some 2,000 boxes, ea. 20 bars, 50 lbs., *English*, are reported sold, "to arrive," at £1.65 to £1.90.

WINDOW GLASS.—Nothing doing.

NEEDLES.—With the exception of a sale of 100 cases, *Crown Chop*, No. 2/0, 3/0 and 1/12, at £21.50, nothing worth noting has occurred under this heading.

DYES AND COLOURS.—Sales have been entirely of a retail character, and the market is tame and lifeless. About 500 cases *Logwood Extract* have been contracted for at £12 to 12.50.

BUTTONS.—There has been a brisk inquiry for No. 7, and altogether 300 cases have been placed, "to arrive," at £26.25 to £27.

UMBRELLAS.—Sales on record are:—20 cases, 12 ribs, *Alpacas*, at £4.80 to £4.90; 20 cases, 8 ribs, *Zanella*, and 10 cases 8 ribs, small *Alpacas*, at £3.40 to £3.50.

HANDKERCHIEFS.—10,000 dozen *White Cotton* are reported contracted for at 22½ cands.

LLAMA BRAID.—Numbers 41 and 45, assorted and black, have been inquired for, and settlements of altogether 200 cases at 40 to 46 cands. have resulted.

SUNDRIES.—200 cases, each 4 gross, *Tin Basins*, were sold at £25.50 to £25.60 per case, and 50 cases, ea. 25 gross, *Snuff-boxes*, with glass-top, were settled at £1.60.

WORM TABLETS.—Are selling at 77½ to 82½ cands. per dozen.

Kerosene Oil.—This market has taken a sharp upward turn again, and settlements of *Devoes*, "spot," have been made up to £1.71, while "to arrive," ex *Steamer*, sales have been booked at £1.65, and per *sailer* at £1.55. *Russian*, *Anchor chop*, is selling at £1.55 to £1.57½, *Half-moon chop* at £1.50 to £1.52.

Opium.—Closing quotations:—*Malwa (new)* £415, *(old)* £435, *Patna (new)* £384, *Benares (new)* £374.

Silk.—From Messrs. Cromie & Barkill's Report. London tel-grams quote Silk—Dull. Blue Elephant, 13/6.

RAW SILKS.—Lower prices have been accepted for common Tsatlee descriptions, but for the few parcels of Silks of fair quality remaining on offer there is no change to report in quotations.

The season is backward, but the weather is favourable. In most districts the hatching of the eggs has commenced.

TSATLEES.—Sales are about 200 bales at \$400 for Buffalo No. 2 and \$325 for Gold Kilin.

HANGCHOWS.—Twenty bales of Lily Flower "Lannoch" have been placed at \$327½.

TAYSAAMS.—Purchases include 40 bales of Kahings and 20 bales of Skeins at quotations. There is an unsold stock of nearly 300 bales of Green Kahings.

YELLOW SILK.—Only 20 piculs of Meeyangs have been settled at \$240.

Arrivals, as per Customs Returns, from the 17th to the 26th April, are about 200 bales of White Silks, 70 piculs of Yellow Silks and 1,640 piculs of Wild Silks.

RE-REELS.—To-day's mail for the States took 124 bales. The market is without change.

WILD SILKS.—Stocks are slightly increased, but a fair business has been current at \$127½ for Tusseh Raw.

WASTE SILKS.—Fine Gum has been sold at \$110 and a parcel of Coarse Gum at \$80 for Nos. 1 and 2.

SHANTUNG PONGEES.—Sales are reported of 2,000 pieces at \$3 for 24 oz. goods.

Purchases include:—TSATLEES.—Buffalo 2 \$400, Bird "Chun-ling" \$352½, Green Elephant \$325, Gold Kilin \$325, Chay Kilin \$292½. HANGCHOW TSATLEE.—Lily Flower "Lannoch" \$327½. TAYSAAM.—Wh. Kahings, Gold Lion Tay-or \$350, Green Kahings Almond Flower 1 \$312½, Skeins, Market 1 \$280. YELLOW SILK.—Meeyang \$240. TUSSEH.—Raw \$130. RE-REELD TSATLEE.—Market 1 \$390, ditto 11 \$370, ditto 111 \$360.

	1888-89.	1887-88.	1886-87.	1885-86.	1884-85.	1883-84.
Settlements for this mail †	about 250	750	1,500	500	250	600 bales.
" for the season † ..	56,250	56,750	60,000	55,750	57,000	53,600 "
Stock	2,000	3,250	4,500	6,000	4,000	2,400 "
Total Arrivals	58,250	60,000	64,500	61,750	61,000	56,000 "

† Exclusive of purchases for re-sale on this market.

	* England.	* France, &c.	Total Europe.	America.	India & Egypt.	Coast & Straits.	Grand Total.
Export White Silk	5,449	29,621	35,070	4,416	403	1,119	41,008 bales.
" Yellow ..	62	4,891	4,953	2	1,921	375	7,251 "
" Wild ..	2,549	4,167	6,716	87	...	6	6,809 "
	8,060	38,679	46,739	4,505	2,324	1,500	55,068 "
Against in 1887-88	7,975	39,636	47,611	3,611	2,915	1,759	53,896 "
" 1886-87	5,669	44,896	50,565	5,752	1,329	1,253	58,899 "
Export—Waste Silk	13,969	19,486	33,455	3	137	121	33,716 piculs.
" Cocoons	4,118	1,573	5,681	60	53	.....	5,804 "

* Many shipments are now sent optional, Marseilles or London.

Also 992 piculs Old Silk Wadding to London.

" 115 " " to Continent.

EXPORTS.

Tea.—BLACK.—A few chops have been reported as shipped off on native account.

STOCK.—5,000 half-chests against "Nil" in 1887-1888.

GREEN.—Season closed.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM SHANGHAI AND YANGTZE PORTS.

From the commencement of the season to date.

	1888-89.			1887-88.		
	Black.	Green.	Total.	Black.	Green.	Total.
To Great Britain...	45,919,822 lbs.	6,270,393 lbs.	52,190,217 lbs.	51,848,689 lbs.	8,082,593 lbs.	59,931,282 lbs.
Russia direct ...	17,604,478 "	.....	17,604,478 "	12,019,023 "	.....	12,019,023 "
America	4,093,900 "	14,714,549 "	18,808,449 "	4,316,632 "	14,927,180 "	19,243,812 "

Shares.—A miscellaneous business has been done during the week, including Hongkong Bank shares at 160 per cent. premium, China Shipper Mutual Steams at £13, Indo-China Steams at \$40; North-China Insurances at \$320, 330 and 340, Yangtzes at \$101, National Marines at \$41, Unions at \$102½; Hongkong Fires at \$370 cash, 330 and 3-days private rate for 31st May, 377½ and 73 for 31st July, and 385 and 73 for 30th September; China Fires at \$32 cash, 82½ and 73 for 31st May, and 83 cash; Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares at \$195, Pootung Wharf shares at \$32 cash and 84½ for 31st May; and Birt's at \$35 and 37½; Shanghai Cargo-boats at \$167½ and 165, Perak Sugars at \$19 and 19½, Hall & Holtz at \$22½ (now wanted at 24), Land Investments at \$20 and 19½, Llewellyn's at \$117½ and 74½, Sheridans at \$200 for cash, 215 for 31st July, and 195 for cash *ex div.* of \$5, and Perak Tins at \$25½.

Exchange has been very steady throughout the mail, but only a limited business has transpired. Native interest is 1 mace 5, equal to 5½ per cent. per annum. Bar Silver is quoted at 42½. Council drafts were allotted at 1¼½, and transfers at 1¼½.

DAILY QUOTATIONS.

(From Messrs. Morris & Fergusson's Weekly Circular.)

	ON LONDON.								FRANCE.		NEW YORK.		HONG-KONG.	INDIA.	
	T/Transfers.		Bank 4 m/s.		Credits 4 m/s		Docty. 4 m/s.		Francs 4 m/s. and 6 do.		Docty. 4 m/s.			Rupees. T/Transfers.	
	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest	Lowest.	Highest	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.		Lowest.	Highest.
Tuesday, 23rd	4.1½	4.1½	4.2	4.2	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	5 31/5.34	5 32/5.35	97½		27½	304½	
Wednesday, 24th	4.1½	4.1½	4.2	4.2	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	5 32/5.35	5 32/5.35	97½		27½	305	
Thursday, 25th	4.1½	4.1½	4.2	4.2	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	5 32/5.35	5 32/5.35	97½		27½	305	
Friday, 26th	4.1½	4.1½	4.2	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	5 32/5.35	5 32/5.35	97½		27½	305	
Saturday, 27th	4.1½	4.1½	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	5 32/5.35	5 32/5.35	97½		27½	305	

AUCTION SALES.

Auctions for the week ending 25th April comprised the following Goods:—

	For the week.		Previous week.		Corresponding week last year.			For the week.		Previous week.		Corresponding week last year.	
	pcs.	against	pcs.	against	pcs.	against		pcs.	against	pcs.	against	pcs.	against
Grey Shirtings	15,655	"	17,500	"	23,130	"	Velvets .....	.....	"	.....	"	.....	"
White Shirtings	8,726	"	12,521	"	5,880	"	Velveteens .....	.....	"	.....	"	60	"
T.Cloths	6,650	"	6,730	"	4,830	"	Cotton Yarn .....	.....	bales	.....	"	.....	bls.
Drills, English	610	"	1,035	"	930	"	Camlets	1,080	"	1,180	"	1,370	pcs.
Jeans, ...	150	"	300	"	460	"	Long Ellis	480	"	620	"	520	"
Sheetings, English	620	"	600	"	1,420	"	Lastings	780	"	800	"	780	"
Turkey Reds	600	"	.....	"	300	"	Spanish Stripes	732	"	703	"	786	"

At Ne-kee, 20th inst.—

PIECE GOODS.

Turkey Reds.—600 pieces; Double Phoenix 3½ lbs. \$1.41½/42½, 6½ lbs. \$1.91/93 and 7½ lbs. \$2.02½/03½.

At Laon-kung-mow, 22nd inst.—

T-Cloths.—7 lbs.—300 pieces; Drouble Dragon \$1.10.**Printed T-Cloths.**—240 pieces; Assorted \$0.93½/95½.**Figured Orleans.**—200 pieces; Assorted \$2.11/12½.

At E-teh-ter, same day—

Cotton Spanish Stripes.—336 pieces; Stag, Gentim \$0.20, and Child and Shield \$0.15/16.**White Shirtings.**—950 pieces; Woman AAA No. 1,000 \$2.20/20½, do. VVV No. 2,000 \$2.35/36.**White Irishes.**—350 pieces; Woman \$2.17/19.**Drills, English.**—300 pieces; Highlander GGG \$2.17½/19½.

At Takoo, 23rd inst.—

Grey Shirtings.—7 lbs.—250 pieces; Silver Steamboat \$1.25½.

8.4 lbs.—1,300 pieces; Blue Large Eagle \$1.37½. Man Horse and Spear \$1.42½/42½, Silver Steamboat \$1.58½/58½ and Blue Dragon \$1.77½/78.

T-Cloths.—7 lbs.—2,100 pieces; Man Horse and Spear M.T. No. 2 \$1.17½/17½, do. No. 1 \$1.23½/23½, Silver Steamboat \$1.36½/37, and Silver Dragon \$1.47½.

8 lbs.—1,260 pieces; Man Horse and Spear M.T. No. 2 \$1.31, do. No. 1 \$1.46/46½, Silver Steamboat \$1.56/56½, and Silver Dragon \$1.67½/68½.

At E-wo, 24th inst.—

Grey Shirtings.—5 lbs.—500 pieces; Red Peacock \$0.91½.

8.4 lbs.—2,100 pieces; Blue 2-Duck \$1.54½, Black Tea Caddy XX \$1.55, Blue 3-Duck \$1.61/61½, Blue Bell XX \$1.80½, Blue Tea Caddy DDD \$1.80½/81 and Blue 2-Tea Caddy \$1.99½.

10 lbs.—1,500 pieces; Red Crab \$2.01½, Blue Crab XX \$2.02½/03, Blue Tea Caddy XX \$2.02½/03, and Blue Tea Caddy DDD \$2.18½/19½.

11 lbs.—500 pieces; Blue Bell \$2.32/32½, and Blue Tea Caddy X \$2.27½/27½.

White Shirtings.—

Various 242 pieces; Gold Nine-Tiger, 64-reed \$1.62½, and Woman No. 2123 \$2.21.

T-Cloths.—7 lbs.—1,400 pieces; Red Peacock \$1.02, Red Tea Caddy \$1.19½/19½, and Blue Tea Caddy \$1.32½/32½.

8 lbs.—300 pieces; Red Tea Caddy \$1.32.

At Yuen-fong, 25th inst.—

Grey Shirtings.—6 lbs.—1,400 pieces; Lotus \$0.93, Two Man \$0.95½, and Blue 3-Students \$0.96½.

7 lbs.—1,600 pieces; Blue Britannia \$1.29½/29½, Blue 4-Sister \$1.35½, and Blue 3-Students \$1.46.

8.4 lbs.—3,235 pieces; Two-Man \$1.44, House \$1.41½, Blue Britannia \$1.45½, Blue Loyol Son \$1.43, Blue 4-Sister \$1.57½, Blue 3-Students \$1.59½/59½, Blue Double Shield \$1.64, Five Brother \$1.78½/79, and Painted 3-Students \$1.78.

10 lbs.—1,700 pieces; Red Britannia \$1.97½/98½, Red Emperor's Birthday \$2.02/02½, Red 3-Students \$2.02½/03, and Red 4-Sister \$2.21½/21½.

10 12 lbs.—500 pieces; Gold Britannia \$2.32½/32½.

11 lbs.—750 pieces; Painted 3-Students \$2.42.

12 lbs.—420 pieces; Soldier \$2.40, and Nine Lions \$2.44.

White Shirtings.—64-reed, 3,100 pieces; House bright \$1.53, and dull \$1.49½/51½, Blue Double Lighthouse bright \$1.55½/56, and dull \$1.52½/52½, Blue Stag \$1.76½, and Black and Gold 3-Students * \$1.70½.

72-reed, 4,080 pieces; White and Gold 3-Students \$1.94½/95, Red Two-Sister \$1.94½, Red Double Lighthouse bright \$1.98½, dull \$1.97½/2.00, and Red and Gold Star bright \$2.17½/18, dull \$2.12½.

T-Cloths.—7 lbs.—540 pieces; Blue Lion \$1.21½, Red Double Shield \$1.22½, and Red 3-Students \$1.42½.

8 lbs.—750 pieces; Blue Lion \$1.36½, Eagle XX \$1.47½, and Painted 3-Students \$1.72½.

Drills.—English, 14 lbs.—220 pieces; Black Flag Chief \$1.63½, Britannia \$2.48½, and Old Man Head \$2.53½.

15 lbs.—90 pieces; Running Deer \$2.16/16½.

Sheetings.—English, 14 lbs.—620 pieces; Lion and Cloud \$2.17½, Two-Squirrel \$2.22½/24, and Old Man Head \$2.54.**Jeans.**—English, 8 lbs.—150 pieces; Two Squirrel \$1.87½.

WOOLLENS.

Auctions—	Scarlet.	Dk. Blue.	Dk. Gentian.	Green, and N. Green.	Orange and Yellow.	Ash & Lav.	White	Purple	Black.	*Brown & Mag.	Mauve.	Lt. Gt. Mid.	Sales Pcs.
NE-KEE, 20th inst.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	
Long Ellis, 2 Dragon..	3.12	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20
Sales, pcs.	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20
Lastings, Gold Lion ..	.....	.....	.....	5.10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20
Sales, pcs. ....	.....	.....	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20
„ Old Man, p. pc. ....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6.41	.....	.....	.....	20
Sales, pcs. ....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	20
S. St'pes, B.T.F., p.yd.	0.43	.....	0.43 15/43½	0.43 6	0.42 7	0.41½	.....	0.42	0.42	0.43.3	.....	0.43.9/44	192
Sales, pcs.	96	.....	18	12*	6*	6*	.....	6	6	6*	.....	36	192
E-TEH-LEE, 23rd inst.													
Lasting, Dog, p. pc. ....	.....	.....	5.93	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	60
Sales, pcs. ....	.....	.....	60	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	60
Sp. Stripes, Dog, p.yd.	0.35.8/35.9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	120
Sales, pcs.	120	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	120
„ (H.) p. yd.	0.39.8/40½	.....	0.41.4	0.42.8/43	0.41.1	0.40.1*	.....	.....	0.40.2	.....	0.40	0.42.3	108
Sales, pcs.	36	.....	24	12*	6*	12	.....	.....	6	.....	6	6*	108
E-wo, 24th inst.													
C'lets, Man Horse, p.p.	9.00/01	.....	8.98/9.00	8.88/9.00	8.98/9.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	170
Sales, pcs.	70	.....	40	30	30*	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	170
„ Boar, p. pc.	8.69/70	.....	8.69	.....	8.71/75	.....	.....	.....	8.36	.....	.....	.....	100
Sales, pcs.	50	.....	20	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	10	.....	.....	.....	100
Long Ellis, H.D.B. p.p.	4.78	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	300
Sales, pcs.	300	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	300
S. S'pes, S'gle Phoenix	0.39/39.1	.....	0.41½/41.3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.40½	.....	186
Sales, pcs.	120	.....	48	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	.....	186
YUEN-FONG, 25th inst.													
Camlets, S.S.G. p.pce.	9.82½/87½	10.12½/25	9.82½/85	.....	10.35/42½	.....	9.82½	8.80	.....	.....	9.02½	10.00	470
Sales, pcs.	190	80	110	.....	30	.....	10	10	.....	.....	20	20*	470
„ G.G.M., p.pce.	9.97½	.....	9.90	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10.02½	40
Sales, pcs.	20	.....	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10*	40
„ S.S.H., p.pce.	9.52½/60	9.25/27½	9.60	9.62½	9.32½/47½	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8.95	9.57½	300
Sales, pcs.	120	70	60	10*	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	10*	300
Long Ellis, G.G.L., p.p.	5.15/19	.....	5.30	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	180
Sales, pcs.	140	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	180
Lastings, G.G.R., p.p.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8.42½	.....	.....	9.05	380
Sales, pcs. ....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	360	.....	.....	20*	380
„ F.F.R., p.pce.	.....	.....	7.10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6.62.5	.....	.....	7.50	300
Sales, pcs. ....	.....	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	260	.....	.....	20	300
S. S'pes, T.T.B. p. yd.	0.46/46½	0.45	0.48½/48½	.....	0.44½	.....	.....	0.42½	0.45½	.....	0.45½	0.46	126
Sales, pcs.	60	12	24	.....	6	.....	.....	6	6	.....	6	6	126

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods for the week ending 25th April, 1889, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 88 to 93, both numbers inclusive.

Goods.	RE-EXPORTS AND THEIR DESTINATIONS.													
	Ningpo.	Wanchow.	Chinkiang.	Wuhu.	Kinkiang.	Hankow.	Chungking.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Kiaochow.	Hongkong.	Nankai.	Hingpo.	Yokohama.
Grey Shirtings +.....Pcs.	13,784	450	18,735	5,270	5,530	67,910	3,736	58,839	3,330	1,055	..	..	..	2210
T-Cloths, 32-in.	3,640	1,765	1,205	3 5	740	4,426	3,720	12,200	2,595	6,180	..	..	..	5,500
" 36-in.	4,480	..	100	..	580	360	..	240	..	..	..	..	..	4,700
White Shirtings	1,567	200	1,860	2,697	980	18,760	1,000	26,635	250	160	..	..	800	5,300
Drills, English & Dutch	75	..	150	..	45	180	255	7,270	1,125	135	..	60	20	360
" American	60	..	105	..	..	150	570	6,645	525	15	..	..	..	300
Jeans, English & Dutch	30	..	40	..	..	260	420	6,673	200	..	..	..	..	480
" American	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	100
Sheetings, English	100	..	455	2,510	440	3,850	20	8,815	..	..	..	..	..	420
" American	480	..	20	40	20	..	735	22,460	1,350	..	..	..	..	380
Dyed Shirtings	100	..	2,678	..	150	770	130	1,216	..	..	..	..	..	250
Ricados & Sp. Stings, White	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	200
" Dyed	..	..	100	..	..	106	..	190	50	..	..	..	..	..
Cambrics, Dyed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	340
Chintzes	196	..	740	170	85	2,496	136	7,263	..	220	..	..	..	460
Printed T-Cloths	220	..	60	100	170	1,490	60	4,337	178	50	..	..	..	400
Printed Twills	..	..	480	159	..	15	..	200	220	..	..	..	..	460
Turkey Red Shirtings	148	103	500	250	600	2,550	913	1,660	730	300	..	..	300	500
Velvets	..	..	105	..	30	90	..	..	60	1	..	..	..	150
Velveteens	..	..	10	..	..	170	..	15	..	..	..	..	..	120
Handkerchiefs	400	..	1,700	860	1,000	2,244	..	1,200	200	20	..	..	..	6,000
Muslins	..	..	348	..	..	300	283	590	200	250	..	120	..	500
Dimities	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,620
Cotton Yarn, Bombay	..	..	30	..	792	276	594	3,558	899	6	..	..	..	..
" English	..	..	12	..	153	513	9	255	51	..	..	..	..	..
Spanish Stripes	90	6	120	30	24	264	36	210	90	..	..	..	..	132
Medium and Broad Cloths	6	..	6	24	6	274	..	80	10	..	..	..	..	120
Camlets	80	30	30	80	150	1,290	20	380	170	70	20	..	70	140
Long Ellis	..	..	140	40	20	1,204	20	260	350	..	..	..	60	120
Lastings	20	..	40	60	160	1,438	80	690	650	60	..	..	..	210
" Crape	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lastings, Cotton & Italians	330	..	1,150	280	70	5,186	1,140	4,706	1,149	30	..	..	..	470
Lastings, Plain	..	..	40	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	40
Figured Orleans	40	..	240	60	..	160	40	40	40	..	..	..	..	120
Lustras, Crape	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lead in Pigs	504	8	145	28	655	2,137	..	1,233	25	309	..	60	..	842
Iron—Nail Rod	298	..	273	94	..	588	..	210	..	13	..	..	..	..

Goods.	TOTAL DELIVERIES.			TOTAL IMPORTS.			STOCKS AT DATE ARE BASED ON THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE RETURNS, OF 1ST JAN., 1889.	
	As above.	For the Year from 1st Jan., 1889.	Against last year to 26th April.	For the Week.	For the year from 1st Jan., 1889.	Against last year to 26th April.	*At date Estimated.	Against 26th April, 1888.
Grey Shirtings +.....Pcs.	196,599	1,855,725	1,929,506	170,925	1,769,332	2,048,882	842,926	1,012,214
T-Cloths, 32-in.	48,796	467,473	436,523	19,500	348,669	506,134	327,466	348,421
" 36-in.	10,460	112,950	59,775	11,469	164,529	113,778	193,334	125,798
White Shirtings	60,629	656,451	604,063	54,118	574,614	775,100	495,424	379,210
Drills, English and Dutch	10,575	102,920	95,470	21,355	143,834	167,789	303,119	149,344
" American	8,370	90,275	77,120	..	175,485	148,365	88,225	71,510
Jeans, English and Dutch	8,503	49,297	45,464	2,030	24,417	67,277	18,240	69,298
" American	..	640	3,070	..	..	9,000	..	23,850
Sheetings, English	16,910	171,352	273,131	13,750	112,141	369,464	444,753	290,663
" Am.	25,525	331,485	276,261	..	205,170	543,360	567,370	406,054
Dyed Shirtings	5,394	59,435	42,556	3,659	31,801	75,111	18,330	38,539
Ric. & Spot. Shirts, White	..	1,097	..	..	1,006	..	959	..
" Dyed	646	12,309	13,021	650	6,131	13,727	1,202	3,066
Cambrics, Dyed	..	130	320	..	12	1,132	242	812
Chintzes	11,646	89,892	83,792	5,041	51,540	149,918	206,042	81,357
Printed T-Cloths	7,125	55,296	56,398	4,205	18,156	76,385	..	291,830
Printed Twills	1,611	35,642	34,187	1,814	18,106	59,866	79,806	48,849
Turkey Red Shirtings	8,958	153,926	127,319	12,187	116,353	136,834	141,744	89,665
Velvets	426	9,510	7,575	610	6,393	19,782	19,774	33,689
Velveteens	315	4,036	5,734	667	4,377	6,597	8,960	6,774
Handkerchiefs	13,564	158,228	108,858	1,970	95,587	216,983	187,234	306,057
Muslins	8,851	110,483	118,194	11,634	130,978	208,908	159,354	117,690
Dimities	..	100	..	..	9	758	1,882	3,031
Cotton Yarn, Bombay	6,155	59,351	51,284	870	49,727	39,990	6,165	?
" English	993	12,856	16,825	333	10,945	16,539	15,155	3,002
Spanish Stripes	1,014	11,867	12,891	312	12,326	19,033	19,974	22,822
Medium and Broad Cloths	526	6,009	7,223	1,021	6,242	10,812	28,733	25,131
Camlets	2,530	29,197	31,667	340	32,398	28,384	24,001	31,717
Long Ellis	2,264	22,682	20,119	420	22,820	27,427	17,778	21,788
Lastings	3,408	35,399	38,640	1,130+	34,952+	52,983	65,504+	63,347
" Crape	..	720	510	..	600	300	760	390
Lastings, Cotton & Italians	14,791	172,677	234,445	8,062	76,632	435,731	396,069	402,171
Lastings, Plain	80	1,360	810	5	1,446	2,398	626	1,638
Figured Orleans	740	10,799	11,618	..	7,617	14,159	27,312	31,139
Lustras, Crape	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,680	..
Lead in Pigs	5,955	61,546	24,175	5,390	76,287	49,774	54,733	40,481
Iron—Nail Rod	1,476	50,517	32,439	5,460	55,230	25,112	125,855	29,506

+ Including English and Dutch 12-lbs.

* Exclusive of undeclared Import Cargoes per *Mogul, Calédonien, Glenshiel, Batavia, Palamed, Clyde, Bayern, Orestes and Monarch*. Import Cargoes declared during interval: *Kaisers, Akashi Maru and Luertes*.

† Lastings.—The imports last week should have been 5,092 pieces, for the year 33,522 pieces, and the stock 67,782 pieces.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

27TH APRIL, 1889.

EXCHANGE.—On London—Telegraphic Transfer, 4s. 1½d. Bank Bills, demand, 4s. 1½d. Bank Bills, 4 months' sight, 4s. 2d. First-Class Credits to Banks, 4 months' sight, 4s. 2½d.; 6 months' sight, 4s. 2½d. Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, 4s. 2½d.; 6 months' sight, 4s. 2½d. On Paris—Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, 5.32; 6 months' sight, 5.35. On New York—Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, 97½. On Hongkong—Bank demand, 27½. On Bombay—Telegraphic Transfers, Rs. 30½; Calcutta, Rs. 30½. Bullion—Gold Bar, Peking 978 touch, £233 75. Bar Silver, 111.20. Mexican Dollars, £74 8. Copper Cash, 1.420. Native Interest, mace 0.1.1.

SHARES.

BANKS.—Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Cash shares have been sold at 160 per cent, premium.
SHIPPING.—Indo-China shares have been placed at £40, and C.S. Mutual S.N. shares at £13 and exchange 4/14.
DOCKS.—The Footing Dock Co.'s accounts for 1888 were presented and passed at a meeting of shareholders held on 25th April. A sum of £15,250 has been expended in repairs, £13,000 being borrowed for that purpose. The liability for these expenses will be determined by the decision of the case now under trial in H.B.M. Supreme Court, between the shareholders and the lessee of the Dock. The net deficiency is £12,458.70.

MARINE INSURANCE.—North-China have been in strong demand, and business has been done at £320 to £340, cum dividend. Unions have been placed at £102½, and Yangtzes at £101.

FIRE INSURANCE.—Business has been done in Hongkongs at \$370 and \$380 cash, \$380 for 31st May, \$377½ for 31st July, and \$385 for 30th September; and in Chinas at \$82 to \$83 cash, and \$83½ for 31st May.

WHARVES.—A sale of Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares is reported at £195. They are wanted at that rate. Bird's Wharf shares have changed hands at £35 and £37½. Footing Wharf and Godown shares have been sold at £82 cash and £84½ for 31st August.

MINING.—Peraks have changed hands at £25½, and are wanted. The Sheridan Mining Company's report and accounts for the season 1888-1889, to 31st January last, were passed at a meeting of shareholders held on 22nd April. The Working Account for 13 months shows a net profit of £60,590.90, equal, for 12 months' working, to about 20 per cent, on the paid up capital, an increase of about 2 per cent, upon the profit in 1887. Dividends to the amount of 17 per cent, have been paid, and a balance of £13,145.90 is carried to Reserve, which now stands at £29,125.85.—Business has been at £200 cash, and £215 for 31st July, cum dividend of 5 per cent, paid on the 23rd inst., and at £195 cash ex div.

CARGO BOATS.—Shanghais have sold at £167½ and £165.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Business has been done in Perak Sugar Cultivation shares at £19 and £19½, in Hall & Holtz Co-operative shares at £22½ and £23, in Shanghai Land Investment shares at £20 and £19½, and in J. Llewellyn & Co. shares at \$117½ and exchange 74½. Hall & Holtz shares are wanted at £24 and held for £26.

SHARES.	No.	Value.	Paid up.	POSITION PER LAST REPORT.			LAST DIVIDEND, &c.		CASH QUOTATIONS.
				Reserve.	At Working Account.	Date.	To Shareholders.	When pd. or due.		Closing.
<i>Banks.</i>									
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Co.	60,000	\$125	\$125	\$4,300,000	\$59,874.67	31 Dec. 88	* £1½	25 Feb. 89	160 % prem.
New Oriental Bank Corp., Ltd.	54,700	£10	£10	£115,002.72	.....	31 Mar. 87	* 3 %	22 Feb. 89	£10½
<i>Shipping.</i>									
Shanghai Tug Boat Co., Ltd. ...	1,000	£100	£100	.....	£2,488.70	31 Dec. 88	1 3 %	11 Jan. 89	£83
Indo-China Steam Nav. Co. ...	49,589	£10	£10	£30,000.00	£1,922.8.9	31 Dec. 87	+ 5 %	23 July 88	£40
Shanghai Shipping Co.	150	£1,000	£1,000	.....	£143,500.00	31 Dec. 88	* 6 %	12 Feb. 89	£400
China Shippers' Mutual S.N. Co.	7,662	£20	£13	£33,425.9.10	£2,826.10.6	31 Dec. 87	+ 6 %	4 June 87	£13
Taku Tug and Lighter Co.	2,500	£100	£100	£20,000.00	£23,582.97	31 Dec. 88	* 5 %	28 Feb. 88	£150
<i>Docks.</i>									
Shanghai Dock Co.	440	£500	£500	£18,000	£157.21	31 Dec. 88	* 2 ½ %	17 Jan. 89	£340
Footing Dock Co.	950	£100	£100	.....	£112,458.70	31 Dec. 88	* 5 %	14 Jan. 88	£81
<i>Gas.</i>									
Shanghai Gas Co.	2,000	£100	£100	£67,000	£1,281.47	31 Dec. 87	* 6 %	10 Jan. 89	£192½
Compagnie du Gaz ...	500	£100	£100	£19,647.18	£89.90	31 Dec. 88	* 6 %	1 Mar. 89	150
<i>Insurance (Marine.)</i>									
China Traders' Insurance Co., Limited.	24,000	\$83.33	\$25	£650,000.00	£261,119.28	30 Apr. 88	20 %	4 Sept. 88	\$79
North-China Ins. Co., Ltd.	4,969	£200	£50	£264,578.42	£502,640.14	30 June 88	† £25.46	26 Apr. 88	£340
Union In. Society of Canton Ltd.	10,000	£250	£25	£690,800.00	£484,923.17	30 June 88	+ 20 %	17 Oct. 88	£102½
Yangtze Insurance Association.	8,000	£25	£25	£175,914.31	.....	31 Mar. 88	* 3½ %	18 Jan. 89	£101
Chinese Insurance Co., Limited	1,500	£1,000	£200	£28,711.50	£15,285.84	31 Dec. 87	- 3 %	2 Apr. 88	£160
Canton Insurance Office ...	10,000	£250	£50	£304,000.00	£487,321.48	30 Sep. 88	+ 10 %	8 Jan. 89	£110
Straits Insurance Co., Limited..	30,000	£100	£20	£115,000	£113,000.00	31 Dec. 88	* 5 %	18 Apr. 89	£20
<i>Insurance (Fire.)</i>									
Hongkong Fire Ins. Co., Limited	8,000	£50	£50	\$1,031,486	£326,787.88	31 Dec. 88	+ 33 %	4 Mar. 89	£380
China Fire Ins. Co., Limited ...	20,000	£100	£20	£65,000.00	£163,443.29	31 Dec. 88	+ 30 %	3 Mar. 87	£83
Straits Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.	20,000	£100	£20	£13,000.00	£54,215.25	31 Dec. 88	+ 8 %	1 Mar. 89	£19
Singapore Insurance Co., Ltd....	29,176	£100	£20	£11,875.91	£76,898.10	31 Dec. 87	+ 10 %	5 Apr. 88	£16½
<i>Wharves.</i>									
Shanghai & H'kew Wharf Co....	2,867	£100	£100	£87,689.75	£1,786.71	31 Dec. 88	* 7 %	27 Feb. 89	£195
Bird's Wharf Hide-Curing and Wool-Cleaning Company ...	2,100	£50	£50	£3,449.46	£184.31	31 Oct. 87	* 3½ %	30 Nov. 88	£37½
Footing Wharf & Godown Co.	2,300	£100	£100	£12,000	£1,949.08	31 Dec. 88	+ 4 %	16 Feb. 89	£82
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited...	17,000	£100	£100	.....	£2,755.25	31 Dec. 88	+ 5 %	16 Mar. 89	£196
<i>Mining.</i>									
Perak Tin Mining & Smelting Co.	5,000	£50	£50	.....	£33,543.63	31 Dec. 87	None.	.....	£25½
Sheridan Mining Co.	2,800	£100	£100	£29,125.85	.....	31 Jan. 89	11 15	23 Apr. 89	£195
<i>Cargo Boats.</i>									
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.	1,000	£200	£200	£3,003.47	£2,834.25	31 Dec. 88	* 4 %	5 Mar. 89	£165
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co. ...	1,000	£100	£100	£2,000.00	£1,781.79	31 Dec. 88	+ 3 %	28 Feb. 89	£45
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>									
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.	6,000	£20	£20	£5,000.00	£1,304.9.10	31 Dec. 87	+ 7 %	12 Mar. 89	£28½
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd., New Shares	1,200	£20	£15	.....	.....	.....	+ 7 %	12 Mar. 89	£22
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ltd.	5,000	£50	£50	.....	£12,333.69	31 Dec. 88	None.	.....	£19½
Hall & Holtz Co-operative Co., Ltd.	6,000	£50	£50	.....	.....	28 Feb. 88	£2½	1 May 88	£24
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd.	667	£100	£100	.....	£2,653.56	31 Dec. 87	.....	.....	£170
New Shanghai Electric Co., Ltd.	300	£100	£100	.....	.....	.....	First	year.	£100
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Limited	20,000	£50	£20	.....	.....	.....	do.	.....	£19½
J. Llewellyn & Co., Ltd.	1,200	£100	£100	.....	.....	.....	do.	.....	£117½

LOANS.	Amount of Loan.	Outstanding.	Nominal Value.	Rate of Interest.	When Payable.	Closing.
Shanghai Mun. Debentures—Issue 1882	£ 60,000.00	£ 20,000.00	£ 100	7 %	Dec. & June.	£101 nom.
Do. 1883	£ 45,000.00	£ 45,000.00	£ 100	7 %	Do.	£105 "
Do. 1885	£ 30,000.00	£ 30,000.00	£ 100	7 %	Do.	£105 "
Do. 1888	£ 70,000.00	£ 70,000.00	£ 100	6 %	Do.	£103 "
China Merchants' S.N. Co. Debentures	£ 300,000	£ 238,000	£ 100	7 %	Quarterly	£106 (a)
Chinese Imp. Government Loan 1884	\$1,394,700.14	\$ 976,290.10	\$ 500	8 %	30th June.	\$515 (a)
Do. do. 1884	\$1,594,700.14	\$1,315,760.11	\$ 500	8 %	15th Oct.	\$510 (a)
Do. do. 1886	£ 767,000.00	£ 751,200.00	£ 250	7 %	Mar. & Sept.	£287½ (a)

* For half-year. † For quarter year. ‡ For year. § A deficit. || Reserve for equalization of dividends. (a) Exclusive of accrued interest.